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Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Report on the fifty-sixth session (7 December 2012 and 11-15 March 2013)

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Commission on Narcotic Drugs

**Report on the fifty-sixth session
(7 December 2012 and
11-15 March 2013)**

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Note

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft resolution to be recommended by the Economic and Social Council for adoption by the General Assembly

1. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs recommends to the Economic and Social Council the approval of the following draft resolution for adoption by the General Assembly:

Draft resolution

United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that the world drug problem must be addressed in accordance with the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[1] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[2] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[3] which constitute the framework of the international drug control system,

Bearing in mind the content of article 14 of the 1988 Convention, regarding measures to eradicate illicit cultivation of narcotic plants and cooperation to increase the effectiveness of those efforts,

Fully aware that the world drug problem remains a common and shared responsibility that requires effective and increased international cooperation and demands an integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing and balanced approach to supply and demand reduction strategies,

Reaffirming the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session[4] and the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development,[5] and stressing the commitment contained in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[6] adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at the high-level segment of its fifty-second session and by the Assembly in its resolution 64/182 of 18 December 2009,

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

[2] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

[3] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

[4] General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.

[5] General Assembly resolution S-20/4 E.

[6] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

Recalling Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 52/6 of 20 March 2009, 53/6 of 12 March 2010, 54/4 of 25 March 2011 and 55/4 of 16 March 2012, which resulted in the International Seminar Workshop on Sustainable Alternative Development, held in the provinces of Chiang Rai and Chiang Mai, Thailand, from 6 to 11 November 2011, and the high-level International Conference on Alternative Development, held in Lima from 14 to 16 November 2012, hosted by the Governments of Thailand and Peru, respectively, in close collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, at which Member States considered and adopted the International Guiding Principles on Alternative Development,[7]

Recalling also its resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012, in which it noted the need for Member States to undertake to increase long-term investment in sustainable crop control strategies targeting the illicit cultivation of crops, in coordination with other development measures, in order to contribute to the sustainability of social and economic development and poverty eradication, and recognized the significant role played by developing countries with extensive expertise in alternative development, including preventive alternative development, in promoting best practices and lessons learned from such programmes, and invited them to continue sharing those best practices with States affected by illicit crop cultivation,

Acknowledging that alternative development[8] is an important, lawful, viable and sustainable alternative to illicit cultivation of drug crops and an effective measure to counter the world drug problem and other drug-related crime challenges, as well as a choice in favour of societies free of drug abuse, that it is one of the key components of policies and programmes for reducing illicit drug production and that it is an integral part of efforts made by Governments to achieve sustainable development within their societies,

Reaffirming that development-oriented drug policies and programmes should be undertaken in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and, in particular, respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, human rights and fundamental freedoms and the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[9] and the principle of common and shared responsibility, as well as the Millennium Development Goals,[10] and also taking into account the specific situation of countries and regions and, where appropriate, security concerns,

1. *Welcomes* the outcome of the high-level International Conference on Alternative Development, held in Lima from 14 to 16 November 2012, including the adoption of the Lima Declaration on Alternative Development and the International Guiding Principles on Alternative Development;[11]

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on the outcome of that Conference;[12]

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[7] See E/CN.7/2013/8, annex.

[8] In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolutions 2006/33, 2007/12 and 2008/26, the concept of alternative development includes preventive alternative development in a manner focusing on the sustainability and integrality of uplifting people's livelihood.

[9] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

[10] A/56/326, annex.

[11] See E/CN.7/2013/8, annex.

[12] E/CN.7/2013/8.

3. *Decides* to adopt the aforementioned Lima Declaration on Alternative Development and the International Guiding Principles on Alternative Development as the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, annexed to the present resolution;

4. *Encourages* Member States, international organizations, international financial institutions, entities and other relevant stakeholders to take into account the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development when designing and implementing alternative development programmes;

5. *Expresses* its appreciation and gratitude to the Governments of Thailand and Peru for the convening of the International Seminar Workshop on Sustainable Alternative Development and the high-level International Conference on Alternative Development, respectively.

Annex

United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development

Lima Declaration on Alternative Development

We the representatives convened in Lima for the high-level International Conference on Alternative Development on 16 November 2012,

Underscoring that the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[a] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[b] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[c] in particular its article 14, paragraphs 2 and 3, constitute the framework of the international drug control system, and urging their full and effective implementation,

Reaffirming the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session in 1998[d] and the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, adopted by the General Assembly in 2009,[e]

Noting that, as was stated at the International Seminar Workshop on Sustainable Alternative Development, held in Chiang Rai and Chiang Mai, Thailand, from 6 to 11 November 2011, the Political Declaration and Plan of Action mentioned above, together with the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development,[f] represent a significant advance, as they promote alternative development within the framework of broad national rural development, emphasize the need to address poverty, inter alia, as a driver of illicit crop cultivation and suggest the coupling of both human development and crop reduction indicators to measure the success of alternative development efforts,

[a] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.
[b] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.
[c] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.
[d] General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.
[e] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.
[f] General Assembly resolution S-20/4 E.

Reaffirming that development-oriented drug policies and programmes should be undertaken in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and, in particular, respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[g] and the principle of common and shared responsibility, as well as the Millennium Development Goals, also taking into account the rule of law, the specific situations of countries and regions and, where appropriate, security concerns,

Recalling Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 53/6 of 12 March 2010, 54/4 of 25 March 2011, 55/4 of 16 March 2012 and 55/8 of 16 March 2012,

Recognizing that alternative development, which, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolutions, includes, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, is part of sustainable and effective crop control strategies, which may also include eradication and law enforcement measures,

Recognizing also that alternative development is a process to prevent and eliminate the illicit cultivation of plants containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances through specifically designed rural development measures in the context of sustained national economic growth and sustainable development efforts in countries taking action against drugs, and recognizing the particular sociocultural characteristics of the target communities and groups, within the framework of a comprehensive and permanent solution to the problem of illicit drugs,

Recognizing further that the problem of the illicit production and manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances is often related to development problems and that those links require, within the context of common and shared responsibility, close cooperation among States, the competent organs of the United Nations system, in particular, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, regional bodies and international financial institutions,

Acknowledging the principal role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as a governing body of the United Nations Office on Drug and Crime, along with its subsidiary bodies, together with the International Narcotics Control Board, as the United Nations organs with prime responsibility for drug control matters,

Reaffirming that alternative development is one of the tools to fight against the world drug problem,

Recalling and noting with appreciation the inputs for the draft international guiding principles on alternative development agreed by participants at the International Seminar Workshop on Sustainable Alternative Development held in the provinces of Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai, Thailand, from 6 to 11 November 2011,[h]

1. Welcome the outcome of the high-level International Conference on Alternative Development, held in Lima from 14 to 16 November 2012, which includes the present Declaration and the International Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, as contained in the appendix;

2. Encourage States, competent international organizations, entities and other relevant stakeholders to take into account the present Declaration and the

[g] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).
[h] E/CN.7/2012/8, annex.

International Guiding Principles on Alternative Development when designing and implementing alternative development strategies and programmes;

3. Submit the present Declaration, including the appendix thereto, to the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, for inclusion in his report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-sixth session;

4. Express our appreciation and gratitude to the Government of Peru for the convening of the high-level International Conference on Alternative Development.

Appendix

International Guiding Principles on Alternative Development

A. General provisions

1. Alternative development policies are an important component of enhancing development in States affected by, or in some cases at risk of, the illicit cultivation of crops used for illicit drug production and manufacture, and play an important role in national, regional and international development policies and in comprehensive policies of poverty reduction and cooperation.

2. Alternative development, as an integral component of policies and programmes for reducing drug production, is an important, viable and sustainable option for preventing, eliminating or significantly and measurably reducing the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production and manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances through tackling poverty and providing livelihood opportunities.

3. Alternative development, including in some cases preventive alternative development, constitutes an international policy founded on the principle of shared and common responsibility that seeks to discourage the cultivation of illicit crops in countries affected by that problem and in those countries which are vulnerable to illicit activities.

4. Alternative development, which includes, as appropriate, preventive alternative development strategies and programmes, should be formulated and implemented by taking into account the vulnerability and specific needs of the communities and groups affected by illicit cultivation of crops used for drug production and manufacture, within the broader framework of national policies.

5. Effective alternative development strategies and programmes require, as appropriate, the strengthening of relevant governmental institutions at the national, regional and local levels. Public policies should be supported to the extent possible by, inter alia, strengthening legal frameworks, involving local communities and relevant organizations, identifying and providing adequate financial support, technical assistance and increased investment, and recognizing and enforcing property rights, including access to land.

6. Local communities and relevant organizations should be involved in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all alternative development programmes in order to truly reflect the needs of targeted communities.

7. Civil society can contribute significantly to the formulation of effective and sustainable alternative development programmes, and its active participation should therefore be encouraged in all phases of alternative development programmes.

8. An integrated and complementary approach to alternative development programmes and strategies is crucial and should be implemented in concert with broader drug control policies, including demand reduction, law enforcement, illicit crop elimination and awareness-raising, taking into account demographic, cultural, social and geographic considerations, as appropriate, and in line with the three drug control conventions.

9. States should ensure the proper and coordinated sequencing of development interventions when designing alternative development programmes, and in that regard should take into account issues related to the establishment of agreements and viable partnerships with small producers, favourable climatic conditions, strong political support and adequate market access.

10. Alternative development programmes in the areas where crops are cultivated for illicit drug production and manufacture should be undertaken with a clear understanding of the overall objectives, as appropriate, of eliminating or significantly and measurably reducing the supply of drugs while promoting comprehensive development and social inclusion, alleviating poverty and strengthening social development, the rule of law, security and stability at the country and regional levels, taking into account the promotion and protection of human rights.

11. Alternative development programmes should include measures to protect the environment at the local level, according to national and international law and policies, through the provision of incentives for conservation, proper education and awareness programmes so that the local communities can improve and preserve their livelihoods and mitigate negative environmental impacts.

12. Alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, should be designed to address subregional and regional needs and should be integrated, when circumstances require, into broader regional, subregional and bilateral treaties and arrangements.

13. International cooperation, coordination and stakeholder ownership are essential for the successful implementation and sustainability of alternative development programmes. Alternative development should be considered by all parties involved as a long-term commitment whose results may require time to attain.

14. International cooperation programmes aimed at alternative development should take into account the experiences of different countries, including with regard to South-South cooperation, should draw on best practices and lessons learned in alternative development programmes and projects and should take into account the available financial and technical support provided by donors.

15. Alternative development policies, as one of the tools available in the fight against the world drug problem, should be implemented alongside efforts made by States to strengthen the rule of law and promote health, safety and security so as to ensure a comprehensive approach to tackling the challenges that may be posed by the possible links between drug trafficking, corruption and different forms of organized crime and, in some cases, terrorism.

16. Alternative development can be an integral element of an overall development strategy and should complement economic efforts in the fight against poverty.

17. The impact of alternative development programmes should be assessed by taking into account their contribution to the control of illicit crop cultivation, including the eradication of such crops, and through estimates based on human development indexes, socioeconomic and environmental indicators and impartial and accurate evaluations.

B. Actions and implementation measures

18. States Members of the United Nations, international organizations, regional organizations, development agencies, donors and international financial institutions, as well as civil society, should apply their utmost efforts, as appropriate, to:

(a) Target illicit cultivation and production of crops used for the production and manufacture of illicit drugs, and address related factors, by alleviating poverty, by strengthening the rule of law and institutional frameworks, as appropriate, and by promoting sustainable development aimed at enhancing the welfare of the population;

(b) Build and maintain confidence, dialogue and cooperation with and between stakeholders, from people at the community level and local authorities to leaders at the national and regional levels, so as to ensure participation and ownership for long-term sustainability;

(c) Implement long-term projects and programmes to provide opportunities to fight poverty, diversify livelihoods and strengthen development, institutional frameworks and the rule of law;

(d) Develop policies and programmes that take into account an evidence- and science-based assessment of the potential impact of alternative development on the illicit cultivation of crops used for the illicit production and manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and on rural and socioeconomic development, including the gender dimension related thereto, and the environment;

(e) Take into account the need to promote the diversification of licit crops cultivated and licit economic activities undertaken when implementing alternative development programmes;

(f) Owing to the transnational nature of drug-related crimes, encourage and support coordinated cross-border collaboration and alternative development activities, where appropriate and feasible, with the support of international cooperation;

(g) Address with specific measures the situation of women, children, youth and other high-risk populations, including, in some cases, dependent drug users, owing to their vulnerability and exploitation in the illicit drug economy;

(h) Provide, within a holistic and integrated development approach, essential basic services and legal livelihood opportunities to the communities affected by, or in some cases vulnerable to, illicit crop cultivation;

(i) Recognize that alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, requires the implementation of articulated short-, medium- and long-term plans and actions from all relevant stakeholders to promote positive and sustainable socioeconomic changes in the affected and, in some cases, vulnerable areas;

(j) Promote coordination and encourage alternative development programmes which contain complementary measures at the local, regional and national levels;

(k) Ensure, when considering crop control measures, that small-farmer households have opportunities for viable and sustainable licit livelihoods so that the measures may be properly sequenced in a sustainable fashion and appropriately coordinated, taking into account the circumstances of the region, country or area concerned;

(l) Ensure that programmes or projects related to alternative development effectively discourage the illicit cultivation of crops used for the illicit production and manufacture of drugs;

(m) Also ensure that drug control programmes are implemented in a comprehensive and balanced manner, so as to avoid the shifting of illicit crop cultivation domestically, as well as from one country or region to another;

(n) Respect the legitimate interests and specific needs of the local affected and, in some cases, vulnerable population when designing and implementing alternative development programmes;

(o) Address basic human needs, in full conformity with the three drug conventions and relevant human rights instruments, in order to promote the welfare of targeted communities;

(p) Integrate those communities which are in marginalized regions into the economic and political mainstream; as appropriate, such integration should involve supporting access to roads, schools, primary health-care services, electricity and other services and infrastructure;

(q) Promote increased coordination and cooperation between relevant governmental agencies, when appropriate, and adopt an integrated approach to drug control that involves all relevant stakeholders;

(r) Ensure that the implementation of alternative development programmes is conducted in a manner that helps enhance synergy and confidence among national governments, regional authorities and local administrations and communities with regard to building local ownership and coordination and cooperation;

(s) Promote the strengthening of the justice and security sectors and social development, as well as institutional legal frameworks and anti-corruption measures, in a manner conducive to enhancing alternative development efforts;

(t) Promote governance capabilities, when appropriate, in order to strengthen the rule of law, including at the local level;

(u) Ensure that measures aimed at strengthening the rule of law are included in development-oriented drug control policies in order to, inter alia, support farmers in their efforts to stop, and in some cases prevent, the cultivation of illicit crops;

(v) Apply, in addition to estimates of illicit cultivation and other illicit activities related to the world drug problem, indicators related to human development, socioeconomic conditions, rural development and the alleviation of poverty, as well as institutional and environmental indicators, when assessing alternative development programmes in order to ensure that the outcomes are in line with national and international development objectives, including the Millennium

Development Goals, and that they reflect accountable use of donor funds and truly benefit the affected communities;

(w) Utilize objective impact evaluations that examine a broad range of social, economic and environmental factors and incorporate the lessons learned from these evaluations in future projects to ensure that the design and implementation of alternative development programmes are based on a reliable and evidence-based evaluation and thorough analysis of local socioeconomic, geographical and cultural realities, as well as the assessment of benefits and risks;

(x) Undertake further research and strengthen data collection with a view to providing a basis for more effective and evidence-based alternative development programmes, as well as conduct research to assess the factors leading to the illicit cultivation of drug crops used for the production and manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

(y) Utilize data and conduct analysis to identify areas, communities and affected populations that are vulnerable to illicit cultivation and its related illicit activities, and tailor the implementation of programmes and projects to address identified needs;

(z) Encourage partners in cross-border alternative development activities to consider measures to support the implementation of alternative development strategies and programmes, which may include special preferential policies, protection of property rights and facilitation of the import and export of products, in accordance with relevant international law, including trade agreements;

(aa) Enhance technical support, including exchange of expertise, best practices and resources, while seeking to secure long-term flexible funding for alternative development programmes in order to ensure their sustainability;

(bb) Consider the possibility of creating an international fund for alternative development programmes that could be used to face major emergency situations, in order to ensure continuity;

(cc) Recognize that international cooperation resources for the implementation of alternative development programmes should be used in consultation and in coordination with partner countries to support joint efforts to eliminate, reduce and, in some cases, prevent the cultivation of illicit crops through reducing poverty and enhancing rural development in areas affected by, or in some cases vulnerable to, illicit cultivation and engaging in effective law enforcement measures;

(dd) Recognize that long-term cooperation, coordination and the commitment of multilevel and multisectoral stakeholders are essential to a holistic and integrated approach to the effectiveness and sustainability of alternative development programmes;

(ee) Consider voluntary and pragmatic measures in appropriate forums, with a view to enabling alternative development products to gain easier access to international markets, in accordance with applicable multilateral trade rules and treaties and taking into consideration the ongoing negotiation processes in the framework of the World Trade Organization. These might include promoting cost-effective marketing regimes in the field of alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, such as a global stamp for

products stemming from alternative development programmes and voluntary certification to support the sustainability of alternative development products;

(ff) Promote, where appropriate, a favourable socioeconomic infrastructure, including the development of roads and transportation networks, the promotion and enhancement of farmer associations, microfinance schemes and schemes aimed at enhancing the effectiveness of the management of available financing resources;

(gg) Combine local wisdom, indigenous knowledge, public-private partnerships and available resources to promote, inter alia, a legal market-driven product development approach when applicable, capacity-building, skills training of the involved population, effective management and the entrepreneurial spirit, in order to support the creation of internal and sustainable commercial systems and a viable value chain at the local level, when applicable;

(hh) Support policies conducive to cooperation with the international financial institutions and, where appropriate, private sector involvement and investment to help ensure long-term sustainability, including through the use of public-private partnerships, as well as encourage alternative development in rural associations or cooperatives and support their management capacity in order to maximize value from primary production and to ensure the integration of areas affected by, or in some cases vulnerable to, illicit cultivation into national, regional and, as appropriate, international markets;

(ii) Promote local ownership and participation of the involved parties in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of alternative development programmes and projects;

(jj) Foster empowerment, including articulation, communication and participation, of the community and local authorities and other stakeholders, to sustain the achievements of the projects and programmes;

(kk) Take into account land rights and other related land management resources when designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating alternative development programmes, including those of indigenous peoples and local communities, in accordance with national legal frameworks;

(ll) Raise awareness among rural communities of the negative impacts that illicit drug crop cultivation, related deforestation and the illicit use of natural resources, in disregard of national or international laws, may have on long-term development and the environment.

B. Draft decisions for adoption by the Economic and Social Council

2. The Commission recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

Draft decision I

Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its fifty-sixth session and provisional agenda for its fifty-seventh session

The Economic and Social Council:

(a) Takes note of the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its fifty-sixth session;

(b) Also takes note of Commission decision 55/1 of 7 December 2012;

(c) Approves the provisional agenda for the fifty-seventh session set out below.

Provisional agenda for the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

High-level segment

3. Opening of the high-level segment.
4. General debate of the high-level segment.
5. Round-table discussions of the high-level segment.
6. Outcome of the high-level segment.
7. Closure of the high-level segment.

Normative segment

8. Thematic debate/round-table discussions.
9. Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem:
   (a) Demand reduction and related measures;
   (b) Supply reduction and related measures;
   (c) Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation to enhance international cooperation.

10. Implementation of the international drug control treaties:

    (a) Challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Organization in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations;

    (b) Changes in the scope of control of substances;

    (c) International Narcotics Control Board;

    (d) International cooperation to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion;

    (e) Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties.

11. World situation with regard to drug trafficking and recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission.

Operational segment

12. Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions:

    (a) Work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and policy directives;

    (b) Role of the Commission as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime:

        (i) Strengthening the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

        (ii) Administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions.

* * *

13. Provisional agenda for the fifty-eighth session of the Commission.

14. Other business.

15. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-seventh session.

Draft decision II

Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

The Economic and Social Council, recalling its decision 2011/258 of 28 July 2011, entitled "Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: extension of the mandate of the standing

open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime", in which it, inter alia, reaffirmed Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/13 of 20 March 2009 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 18/3 of 24 April 2009 and decided to renew the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime until the part of the sessions of the Commissions to be held in the first half of 2013, at which time the Commissions would carry out a thorough review of the functioning of the working group and consider the extension of its mandate:

(a) Reiterates its awareness of the importance of the role of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in assisting the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in effectively addressing financial and governance issues relevant to the work of the Office;

(b) Reaffirms the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the principal policymaking organ of the United Nations on matters of international drug control and as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as the principal policymaking organ of the United Nations on matters of crime prevention and criminal justice and as the governing body of the crime programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

(c) Reiterates its concern about the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and expresses its awareness of the urgent need to continue addressing those issues in a pragmatic, results-oriented, efficient and cooperative manner;

(d) Reaffirms Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/13 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 18/3, and decides to renew the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime until the part of the session of the Commission to be held in the first half of 2015, at which time the Commissions should carry out a thorough review of the functioning of the working group and consider the extension of its mandate;

(e) Decides that the working group shall hold formal and informal meetings in line with current practice;

(f) Requests that the relevant documentation be provided to the working group not later than 10 working days before a meeting;

(g) Reiterates the importance of the development of an indicative annual workplan by Member States, taking into account input from the Secretariat and providing, as appropriate, for review of the format and organization of work of the working group with a view to improving its effectiveness, and approves the provisional agenda of the working group as set out below:

1. Consolidated budget for the biennium 2014-2015 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

2. Governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

3. Evaluation and oversight.

4. Other matters.

Draft decision III

Report of the International Narcotics Control Board

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2012.[13]

C. Matters brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council

3. The following resolutions adopted by the Commission are brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council:

Resolution 56/1

Implementation of the budget for the biennium 2012-2013 for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Exercising the administrative and financial functions entrusted to it by the General Assembly in its resolution 46/185 C, section XVI, paragraph 2, of 20 December 1991,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director on the implementation of the consolidated budget for the biennium 2012-2013 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,[14]

Recalling its resolution 54/16 of 13 December 2011,

1. *Notes* that the report of the Executive Director on the implementation of the consolidated budget for the biennium 2012-2013 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime[15] provides information on the adjustments to the consolidated budget;

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[13] *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2012* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.XI.1).

[14] E/CN.7/2013/6-E/CN.15/2013/6.

[15] Ibid.

2. *Also notes* the continued strong donor confidence in programme delivery by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as reflected in the increase in special-purpose contributions;

3. *Notes with concern* the financial challenges facing the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as set out in the report of the Executive Director, in particular the shortfall in general-purpose funding;

4. *Notes* the cost-saving measures taken by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to reduce general-purpose expenditure by 1,209,400 United States dollars, as reflected in the revised projections of 12,607,100 dollars;

5. *Approves* the revised projected use of general-purpose funds in the biennium 2012-2013, and invites Member States to provide contributions totalling at least 12,607,100 dollars;

6. *Endorses* the revised estimates for the programme support cost funds and special-purpose funds as indicated below:

Resource projections for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme

	Resources (Thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
	Approved budget, 2012-2013	*Revised budget, 2012-2013*	*Approved budget, 2012-2013*	*Revised budget, 2012-2013*
General-purpose funds				
Post	11 078.6	11 424.8	35	35
Non-post	1 569.7	1 182.3	–	–
Subtotal	**12 648.3**	**12 607.1**	**35**	**35**
Programme support cost funds				
Post	12 964.3	13 896.3	108	111
Non-post	3 129.3	3 561.0	–	–
Subtotal	**16 093.6**	**17 457.3**	**108**	**111**
Special-purpose funds	214 449.8	244 092.2	–	–
Total	**243 191.7**	**274 156.6**	**143**	**146**

7. *Notes* that the estimated resource projections above are subject to the availability of funding.

Resolution 56/2

Accra declaration

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World

Drug Problem,[16] in which it was recognized that the world drug problem remained a common and shared responsibility that required effective and increased international cooperation and demanded an integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing and balanced approach to supply and demand reduction strategies,

Recalling also the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[17] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[18] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[19]

Welcoming the outcomes of the Twenty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa, held in Accra from 25 to 29 June 2012,

Reaffirming the provisions of its resolution 54/14 of 25 March 2011, on measures to support African States in their efforts to combat the world drug problem, and its resolution 55/9 of 16 March 2012, on follow-up on measures to support African States in their efforts to combat the world drug problem,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 66/183 of 19 December 2011, on international cooperation against the world drug problem, in which the Assembly invited Member States, in close consultation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, donors and other relevant international organizations, to continue assisting African States in addressing health problems and raising awareness of the dangers associated with the abuse of all drugs, in accordance with Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 54/1,

1. *Takes note* of the Accra declaration, which is annexed to the present resolution;

2. *Urges* Member States to take appropriate measures to combat traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in accordance with the Accra declaration and relevant resolutions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, consistent with their national legislation and the provisions of the international drug control treaties.

Annex

Accra declaration

We, the representatives of States assembled in a spirit of trust and cooperation at the Twenty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa, held in Accra from 25 to 29 June 2012,

Gravely concerned about the growing threat posed by the drug problem in Africa,

Very concerned about the emergence of problems related to the illicit manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants and the proliferation of psychotropic substances, e.g. tramadol,

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[16] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[17] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

[18] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

[19] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

Recalling the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[a] in which it is recognized that the world drug problem remains a common and shared responsibility that requires effective and increased international cooperation and demands an integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing and balanced approach to supply and demand reduction strategies,

Noting that the African drug problem poses multifaceted challenges, including insufficient treatment and rehabilitation services to adequately respond to the magnitude of the need for interventions, as well as insufficient equipment, including state-of-the-art screening machines and closed-circuit television cameras at major airports and border points to address drug trafficking, and inadequate measures to address corruption as a major driver of drug trafficking,

Noting also that drug trafficking is a multifaceted issue that can be effectively tackled only by reducing both supply and demand, and that drug trafficking is on the increase in Africa,

Reaffirming our unwavering commitment to the principle of common and shared responsibility in addressing the world drug problem,

Convinced that concrete action and comprehensive, well-coordinated national plans are the most effective means to combat illicit drugs and related crime,

1. Have agreed to make the following recommendations on effective responses to meeting the challenges of illicit cultivation of, and trafficking in, cannabis:

(a) Governments should be encouraged to undertake surveys and in-depth studies of the threat that cannabis cultivation, trafficking and abuse pose in order to support the development of national strategies that act effectively to combat their damaging impact;

(b) Governments must consider alternative development strategies that invest in the infrastructure and equipment needed to support the social and human development of rural populations whose livelihoods are dependent upon the illicit cultivation of cannabis;

(c) Governments should ensure that their law enforcement authorities are well trained, equipped and coordinated with other national actors in their response to regional trafficking in cannabis.

2. Have agreed to make the following recommendations on good practices and strategies in the treatment and rehabilitation of drug abusers:

(a) Governments should be encouraged to gather factual, reliable and comprehensive information concerning the situation in their countries with respect to both drug trafficking and illicit drug use, so as to develop and implement strategies that are effective to combat drug abuse and reduce its impact on their communities;

[a] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

(b) Governments should review their current strategies to ensure that affordable treatment and prevention services that cover a broad range of addictions are available to their citizens affected by illicit drug use and drug dependence;

(c) Governments should be encouraged to introduce within their criminal justice systems appropriate procedures to enable drug abusers to be provided treatment and rehabilitation as a supplement to prison terms.

3. Have agreed to make the following recommendations on awareness-raising, training, and building and enhancing the region's law enforcement capacity to successfully counter drug trafficking:

(a) As a part of their national strategy to combat drug trafficking and cross-border crime, Governments should be encouraged to actively support the Airport Communication Project of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and establish joint airport interdiction task forces at their international airports;

(b) Governments should review the training, equipment and preparedness of their law enforcement authorities to be able to respond to the threat posed by amphetamine-type stimulants and their illicit manufacture;

(c) Governments should commit their chemical control authorities to registering with, supporting and actively participating in the Pre-Export Notification Online system offered by the International Narcotics Control Board so as to be able to confirm the legitimacy of commercial parties and their transactions of precursor chemicals;

(d) States participating in meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, Africa, should review relevant domestic legislation with a view to aligning it with the international drug conventions and in order to strengthen harmonization at the subregional and regional levels;

(e) States participating in meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, Africa, should commit themselves to increasing resources for public education for demand reduction, including the use of resources resulting from seizures.

4. Have also agreed to make the following recommendations, after consideration by the working groups of the issues set out in the agenda of the Twenty-second Meeting:

(a) States participating in meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, Africa, should continue the implementation of the recommendations made by the Twentieth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa, held in Nairobi from 13 to 17 September 2010, to ensure the effectiveness of the fight against the threat posed by illicit drugs;

(b) States participating in meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, Africa, should strengthen their mechanisms for the monitoring of licit manufacture, import, distribution, export and use of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and chemical precursors, in line with the provisions of the three international drug control conventions (the Single Convention on

Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[b] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[c] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988),[d] as well as related resolutions of the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, to prevent the diversion of those substances into illicit channels while ensuring that they are available for legitimate purposes, and work with or request the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in close collaboration and consultation with the International Narcotics Control Board, to provide training to competent national authorities in that regard;

(c) States participating in meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, Africa, should cooperate with the International Narcotics Control Board and submit all mandatory and voluntary reports in accordance with the above-mentioned conventions and related resolutions of the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

(d) States participating in meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, Africa, are encouraged to continue to pursue the establishment of a common platform for the sharing of secure information and joint investigations of cross-border crimes, building upon experience gained through successful subregional joint operational initiatives;

(e) Bilateral agreements between competent national authorities should be promoted to facilitate the fight against the threat posed by illicit drugs;

(f) States participating in meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, Africa, should commit themselves to considering ways to further strengthen domestic action in respect of drug-related issues, including continued capacity-building and increased human and budgetary resources for law enforcement agencies;

(g) The competent national authorities of States participating in meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, Africa, should register with and/or continue to share real-time information on legitimate trade in precursor chemicals through the Pre-Export Notification Online system and should make active use of the new Precursors Incident Communication System to share real-time intelligence on precursor seizures, thefts, shipments stopped in transit, diversions and diversion attempts, and illicit laboratories;

(h) The competent national authorities of States participating in meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, Africa, should share information on the amphetamine-type stimulants phenomenon with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime through, inter alia, its global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends programme.

5. Call on the international community to continue to recognize the efforts undertaken by Africa in the global fight against illicit drugs and to seize the opportunity thus provided to enhance support for national drug law enforcement initiatives and capacity-building efforts on the continent.

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[b] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.
[c] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.
[d] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

Resolution 56/3

Strengthening international cooperation in combating illicit opiates originating in Afghanistan through continuous and reinforced support to the Paris Pact initiative

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Reaffirming the commitments undertaken by Member States in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[20] in which Member States expressed their full awareness that the world drug problem remained a common and shared responsibility and asserted that it was most effectively addressed in a multilateral setting,

Taking note with appreciation in that context of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2012,[21] chapter I of which is dedicated to the principle of shared responsibility in international drug control,

Bearing in mind that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, at its fifty-seventh session, in 2014, is to carry out a high-level review of the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem on the basis of clear and measurable indicators,

Welcoming and reiterating its support for the Paris Pact initiative, one of the most important international frameworks and a unique platform for genuine partnership between States, competent international organizations and other relevant stakeholders in the fight against opiates originating in Afghanistan, aimed at the elimination or significant reduction of illicit traffic in opiates, opium poppy cultivation and production and the global consumption of heroin and other opiates, and at the establishment and promotion of a broad international coalition to combat illicit traffic in opiates,

Recalling the international conferences of the Paris Pact partners at the ministerial level, held in Paris in 2003, in Moscow in 2006 and in Vienna in 2012, at the latter of which the commitment of the Paris Pact partners in their joint efforts to combat illicit traffic in opiates was strengthened, and looking forward to such ministerial meetings in the future,

Recalling also its resolution 55/11 of 16 March 2012, entitled "Follow-up to the Third Ministerial Conference of the Paris Pact Partners on Combating Illicit Traffic in Opiates Originating in Afghanistan", in which it expressed the conviction that the results of that Ministerial Conference should be translated into effective action by States, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, competent organs of the United Nations and other relevant actors,

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[20] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[21] *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2012* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.XI.1).

Taking note with concern of the publication by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime entitled "Afghanistan: opium survey 2012 — summary findings", in which it was stated that, despite the continued and intensified efforts of the Government of Afghanistan and the international community, in 2012, the illicit opium poppy cultivation rate had increased, while the decrease in opium production was mainly the result of plant disease and adverse weather conditions,

Taking note of the fact that the same survey recognized the strong association between insecurity, lack of agricultural assistance and opium poppy cultivation, and expressing concern that the number of poppy-free provinces in Afghanistan remained unchanged in 2012,

Recognizing that strengthening security, the rule of law and support for local development may encourage licit alternatives to opium poppy cultivation,

Aware of the need to further enhance coordinated, comprehensive and effective measures to reduce the cultivation of opium poppy and the production of, trafficking in and consumption of opiates, and noting that Paris Pact partners, in the Vienna Declaration adopted by the Third Ministerial Conference of the Paris Pact Partners on Combating Illicit Traffic in Opiates Originating in Afghanistan,[22] recognized the threat that opiates pose to international peace and stability in different regions of the world,

Reaffirming its unwavering commitment to ensuring that all aspects of demand reduction, supply reduction and international cooperation are addressed in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[23] and, in particular, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, all human rights, fundamental freedoms, the inherent dignity of all individuals and the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States,

Noting that the sustained menace of illicit drugs adversely affects the social, economic, cultural and political foundations of society and undermines sustainable development,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/11 of 25 July 2007, entitled "Support to the counter-narcotic measures and programmes of Afghanistan",

Bearing in mind the outcomes of the international conferences on Afghanistan held in Istanbul, Turkey, in November 2011, in Bonn, Germany, in December 2011, and in Tokyo in July 2012, which included counter-narcotics as a cross-cutting theme,

Welcoming the ongoing efforts of the Government of Afghanistan in the fight against narcotic drugs, and calling upon Member States to enhance their comprehensive support to the Afghan authorities to combat illicit opiates, including through a range of measures that seek to eliminate or significantly reduce the demand for and restrict the supply of illicit opiates, in particular in view of the

[22] See E/CN.7/2012/17.

[23] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

transition of full security responsibility to Afghan forces, to be completed by the end of 2014,

Commending the activities carried out by the States neighbouring Afghanistan to promote cooperation aimed at countering the illicit traffic in opiates and the smuggling of precursor chemicals into Afghanistan,

Expressing its support for the efforts of Member States aimed at strengthening international and regional cooperation in order to counter the threat to the international community posed by illicit traffic in opiates, paying due attention to strengthening and implementing regional initiatives, exchanging information and good practices to counter illicit traffic in opiates, detecting and blocking financial flows linked thereto, preventing the diversion of precursor chemicals used in illicit manufacture of opiates in Afghanistan and reducing drug abuse and dependence through a comprehensive approach,

Reiterating its support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in its efforts to coordinate effective and results-oriented assistance to Afghanistan and Paris Pact priority countries, in particular through its regional programme for Afghanistan and neighbouring countries and through the regional programme for South-Eastern Europe, as well as other regional and thematic programmes, where relevant,

1. *Reiterates* that the Vienna Declaration adopted by the Third Ministerial Conference of the Paris Pact Partners on Combating Illicit Traffic in Opiates Originating in Afghanistan,[24] including its four main thematic areas, is considered a road map for concrete action and international cooperation under the Paris Pact initiative for the upcoming period;

2. *Continues* to call upon Member States, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Narcotics Control Board and other competent international entities, to ensure the full implementation of the Vienna Declaration adopted by the Third Ministerial Conference of the Paris Pact Partners, including, as appropriate, by means of facilitating partnerships with the private sector and civil society;

3. *Urges* the international community to take full advantage of the Paris Pact initiative in order to continue to assist Afghanistan in countering illicit cultivation and the production of opiates, and supports the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to examine the situation of illicit cultivation and production in Afghanistan in order to further enhance coordinated, comprehensive and effective measures to reduce the cultivation of opium poppy and the production of, trafficking in and consumption of opiates;

4. *Encourages* Member States to enhance coordination through existing international and regional mechanisms, including the Paris Pact initiative, in order to strengthen cross-border cooperation and information exchange with a view to countering traffic in opiates originating in Afghanistan, including through a range of measures that seek to eliminate or significantly reduce the demand for and the supply of illicit opiates;

[24] See E/CN.7/2012/17.

5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime prepared in compliance with Commission resolution 55/11 of 16 March 2012,[25] as well as of the compendium of statements made in reference to the Vienna Declaration adopted by the Third Ministerial Conference of the Paris Pact Partners on Combating Illicit Traffic in Opiates Originating in Afghanistan, annexed to that report;

6. *Considers* that compendium a complementary tool for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, aimed at streamlining, in consultation with Member States, the ideas and incentives it encompasses into concrete action under the auspices of the Paris Pact;

7. *Welcomes* the political and operational outcomes of the third phase of the Paris Pact initiative, and stresses the need to take due account of the conclusions and recommendations of its evaluation in further implementation of the initiative;

8. *Also welcomes* the launch of the fourth phase of the Paris Pact initiative, as decided by the Policy Consultative Group at its meeting held in Vienna on 6 and 7 March 2013, and calls upon Member States to provide the support necessary for its effective implementation, building upon concrete aims and results-oriented measures;

9. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to cooperate with Member States in identifying and meeting the needs for technical assistance to effectively tackle the problem of illicit opiates, in particular in the priority areas outlined in the Vienna Declaration;

10. *Requests* the international community to provide, based on the principle of common and shared responsibility and applying a comprehensive and balanced approach, urgent and adequate technical assistance and support to the countries concerned, in order to promote their capacities and efforts to combat trafficking in illicit opiates and their precursors, within the framework of the Paris Pact and in coordination with thematic and regional programmes of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in particular its regional programme for Afghanistan and neighbouring countries and its regional programme for South-Eastern Europe;

11. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide, subject to the availability of the necessary extrabudgetary resources, regular reports to the Commission, on an annual basis, on the progress achieved and measures taken in implementation of the fourth phase of the Paris Pact initiative;

12. *Invites* Member States and other donors to contribute extrabudgetary resources for those purposes, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the United Nations.

[25] E/CN.7/2013/12.

Resolution 56/4

Enhancing international cooperation in the identification and reporting of new psychoactive substances

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling its resolution 48/1 of 11 March 2005, on promoting the sharing of information on emerging trends in the abuse of and trafficking in substances not controlled under the international drug control conventions,

Recalling also its resolution 53/11 of 12 March 2010, on promoting the sharing of information on the potential abuse of and trafficking in synthetic cannabinoid receptor agonists,

Recalling further its resolution 53/13 of 12 March 2010, on the use of "poppers" as an emerging trend in drug abuse in some regions,

Recalling its resolution 55/1 of 16 March 2012, on promoting international cooperation in responding to the challenges posed by new psychoactive substances,

Reiterating its concern at the number of potentially dangerous new psychoactive substances that continue to be marketed as legal alternatives to internationally controlled drugs, circumventing existing controls,

Concerned that emerging new psychoactive substances may have effects similar to those of internationally controlled drugs and may pose risks to public health and safety, and noting the need for additional data on the effects of these substances to be collected and shared,

Concerned also that transnational organized criminal groups in certain parts of the world create and exploit the increasingly lucrative market for these substances and take advantage of gaps in existing control and legal regimes,

Acknowledging that the adverse impacts and risks to public health and safety that some new psychoactive substances can cause, including harm to young people, are a global concern for which all Member States have a shared responsibility,

Recognizing the speed with which new psychoactive substances emerge and the role that the Internet and the media may play in the trade and promotion of these substances,

Recognizing also that the establishment of a global early warning system, taking advantage of existing regional mechanisms, as appropriate, and providing timely reporting on the emergence of new psychoactive substances, could benefit Member States' understanding of and responses to the complex and changing market for these substances,

Noting that the detection and identification of emerging substances is the first step in assessing the potential health risks of new psychoactive substances, and therefore that scientific, epidemiological, forensic and toxicological information on these substances needs be collected, maintained and disseminated,

Acknowledging the valuable work of the global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs

and Crime in the collection of information on new psychoactive substances, pursuant to Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 55/1, through a questionnaire sent to all Member States and, through them, to territories,

Welcoming the report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime entitled "The challenge of new psychoactive substances", published in March 2013, which provides a comprehensive overview of the nature and magnitude of the challenges posed by new psychoactive substances,

1. *Encourages* Member States to take a comprehensive, coordinated and integrated approach to the detection, analysis and identification of new psychoactive substances, incorporating health and consumer protection agencies, Government departments responsible for drug policies, law enforcement, border and customs agencies, the justice sector and other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate;

2. *Also encourages* Member States to continue to collect information on the adverse impacts and risks to public health and safety posed by new psychoactive substances, using chemical and toxicological data, data from hospitals and treatment and toxicology centres and data reported by individuals;

3. *Further encourages* Member States to take a proactive approach to the detection, forensic identification and toxicological testing of new psychoactive substances, including through interregional and intraregional collaboration, at points of entry and through postal systems or points of sale, including over the Internet, and to monitor emerging trends in the potential adverse impacts and risks to health and safety, prevalence, availability, composition, production, manufacture, distribution and seizure of new psychoactive substances;

4. *Urges* Member States to share with one another information on the identification of new psychoactive substances and on the adverse impacts and risks they pose to health and safety, and also to share that information with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, through, inter alia, its global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends programme, to enable timely analysis and dissemination of information to all Member States, using, where appropriate, existing national and regional early warning systems and networks;

5. *Also urges* Member States to include information on the potential adverse impacts and risks to public health and safety of new psychoactive substances through tailored prevention strategies, including awareness-raising, to counter public perceptions that new psychoactive substances not subject to drug control are safe;

6. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization, the International Narcotics Control Board and other relevant organizations to share and exchange ideas, efforts, good practices and experiences in adopting effective responses to address the unique challenges posed by new psychoactive substances, which may include, among other national responses, new laws, regulations and restrictions;

7. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to develop the voluntary electronic portal of the international collaborative exercises, a programme for national forensic and/or drug-testing laboratories to enable timely and comprehensive sharing of information on new psychoactive substances, including analytical methodologies, reference documents and mass spectra, as well

as trend-analysis data, with a view to providing a global reference point and early warning advisory on new psychoactive substances, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources;

8. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to consider including within its programmes the provision of technical assistance in the identification and reporting of new psychoactive substances, and requests Member States to consider the provision of bilateral technical assistance;

9. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for these purposes in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

Resolution 56/5

Promoting the sharing of expertise in and knowledge on forensic drug profiling

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling article 9 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[26] which states that the parties to the Convention shall cooperate with one another with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of law enforcement action to suppress the commission of offences established in accordance with article 3, paragraph 1, of the Convention,

Recalling also its resolution 47/5 of 19 March 2004, in which the Commission recognized the value of illicit drug characterization and profiling in supporting law enforcement intelligence-gathering and operational work and the international fight against illicit drugs, and noted the need for the effective exchange of drug-profiling information between States to optimize the intelligence capacity of drug-profiling programmes and facilitate the identification of illicit drug sources, trafficking patterns and distribution networks,

Recalling further its resolution 50/9 of 16 March 2007 on the use of drug characterization and chemical profiling in support of law enforcement intelligence-gathering and operational work, as well as trend analysis,

Recalling its resolution 50/4 of 16 March 2007, in which the Commission recognized the important role of drug analysis laboratories as part of drug control systems, and the value of laboratory results and data to criminal justice systems, law enforcement and health authorities and policymakers,

Recalling also its resolution 52/7 of 20 March 2009, in which the Commission called upon Member States and subregional, regional and international entities to contribute to the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, by providing expertise for the development of cooperative networks among laboratories and by exploring innovative ways to ensure the more effective exchange of expertise and information worldwide,

[26] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

Recalling further, in accordance with its resolution 52/7 and its resolution 54/3 of 25 March 2011, that the reliability of the analysis and the results of drug analysis laboratories have significant implications for, among others, law enforcement, as well as for the international harmonization of data and worldwide exchange and coordination of drug information, and that access to reference samples of controlled substances is an essential quality-assurance requirement for achieving such reliability,

Recognizing that the exchange of information and intelligence and the sharing of best practices are crucial to enable law enforcement authorities to successfully prevent, detect and investigate drug trafficking,

Acknowledging that forensic drug profiling based on chemical impurity profiling, the determination of overall chemical composition and the measurement of external characteristics or those of the packaging materials, depending on the type of illicit drug, can be used to establish links between different drug seizures,

Acknowledging also that information from drug profiling combined with law enforcement intelligence can be an effective tool to identify targets or groups involved in drug trafficking and the methods and chemicals used by such groups to manufacture drugs, and can be a powerful means to link seized drugs with targets or groups involved in drug trafficking,

Acknowledging further that forensic drug profiling combined with law enforcement intelligence can be an effective method of enhancing the capacity to contribute to a reduction in drug demand and, especially, in drug supply worldwide,

Noting with concern the differences in capacity of drug analysis laboratory services in Member States, which prevent the exchange of drug information and reduce the value of laboratory results to law enforcement authorities,

1. *Reaffirms* that drug trafficking and other drug-related crimes are a common challenge worldwide that requires increased international cooperation and sharing of expertise in and knowledge of ways and methods to address them more effectively;

2. *Calls upon* Member States, where appropriate, to facilitate and encourage cooperation between forensic experts and law enforcement officers and to promote the utilization in their work of information derived from law enforcement agencies and related forensic drug profiling;

3. *Also calls upon* Member States to share their expertise and knowledge in the field of forensic drug profiling at the global level, as well as their best practices in this field, including information on forensic profiling of drugs seized in clandestine laboratories and in large consignments;

4. *Invites* Member States to ensure that relevant samples, in particular samples taken in connection with international investigations and for intelligence purposes, of the most commonly used drugs, for example, synthetic drugs and their precursors, can be submitted to forensic laboratories that have the requisite expertise for profiling analyses to establish forensic links;

5. *Also invites* Member States to consider developing expertise in the field of forensic drug profiling, exploring innovative ways to ensure the more effective

exchange of information worldwide, and to contribute that expertise to the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

6. *Invites* international law enforcement organizations, such as the International Criminal Police Organization and the European Police Office, to cooperate with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Member States in finding compatible and joint solutions for drug profiling and information-sharing;

7. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to consider the dissemination of forensic drug profiling, to the extent possible, in regional and national programmes;

8. *Invites* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in cooperation with Member States, to identify current drug-profiling methods and best practices and to examine ways and means of sharing expertise in and knowledge on forensic drug profiling, combined with information derived from law enforcement agencies, and utilizing this tool at the international level, and encourages Member States and other donors to consider providing extrabudgetary resources for these purposes, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

9. *Also invites* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to include the theme of promoting the sharing of such expertise and knowledge in the annual report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug trafficking submitted to the Commission.

Resolution 56/6

Intensifying the efforts to achieve the targets of the 2011 Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS among people who use drugs, in particular the target to reduce HIV transmission among people who inject drugs by 50 per cent by 2015

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Reaffirming the commitments of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961,[27] in which States parties expressed concern for "the health and welfare of mankind",[28]

Reiterating the commitments of the United Nations Millennium Declaration[29] and the Millennium Development Goals, in particular the target under goal 6 of halting and beginning to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS by 2015,

Reiterating also the commitments made in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[30]

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[27] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.

[28] Ibid., preamble, first para.

[29] General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[30] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

Recalling its resolution 53/9 of 12 March 2010, on achieving universal access to prevention, treatment, care and support for drug users and people living with or affected by HIV,

Recalling also its resolution 54/13 of 25 March 2011, on achieving zero new infections of HIV among injecting and other drug users,

Noting with great concern that women who use drugs, in particular women who inject drugs, are even less likely to have access to HIV prevention and drug demand reduction services than their male counterparts,

Noting with concern that women with substance abuse problems are often deprived of or limited in their access to effective treatment that takes into account their specific needs and circumstances, and recalling in this regard its resolution 55/5 of 16 March 2012, on promoting strategies and measures addressing specific needs of women in the context of comprehensive and integrated drug demand reduction programmes and strategies,

Reiterating the commitments made in the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: Intensifying Our Efforts to Eliminate HIV and AIDS,[31] adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, particularly the commitment to work towards reducing transmission of HIV among people who inject drugs by 50 per cent by 2015,

Taking note of the *Global Report: UNAIDS Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic 2012*,[32] published by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), which shows a sharp decline in HIV transmission in countries that have implemented comprehensive prevention, care, treatment and support programmes for those most vulnerable to HIV infection,

Noting with great concern that a continuing rise in HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases has been recorded, particularly hepatitis B and C, among people who inject drugs in some countries,

Noting with concern that the prevalence of tuberculosis and viral hepatitis among HIV-infected people who use drugs, in particular people who inject drugs, remains greater than the national average in many countries, and recognizing the value of integrating tuberculosis and viral hepatitis screening and treatment into existing services, such as HIV prevention and treatment services, where feasible,

Taking note of the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime entitled "Responding to the prevalence of HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases among drug users",[33] in which it is recognized that people who inject drugs are vulnerable to viral hepatitis and tuberculosis infections,

Taking note also of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2012,[34] which states that drug abuse, particularly by injection, has emerged as a

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[31] General Assembly resolution 65/277, annex.

[32] Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), *Global Report: UNAIDS Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic 2012* (Geneva, 2012).

[33] E/CN.7/2012/16 and Corr.1.

[34] *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2012* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.XI.1).

serious social issue in many countries, posing new public health challenges such as the spread of HIV and viral hepatitis,

Noting that injecting new psychoactive substances may pose potential risks for spreading HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases in some countries,

Affirming that close cooperation at the national level among experts from the criminal justice, health, social and drug control sectors is a critical element of devising effective responses to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support among drug users,

Reaffirming the central importance of promoting the involvement of people living with or affected by HIV and drug use in shaping responses to the HIV/AIDS epidemic, as well as working with civil society, a key partner in the global response to HIV/AIDS, including the response to the spread of HIV/AIDS through drug injection, in the global efforts to achieve the targets set in the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS adopted in 2011,

Reaffirming also the importance of global coordination efforts to scale up sustainable, intensified and comprehensive HIV/AIDS responses, in a comprehensive and inclusive partnership with people living with HIV, vulnerable groups, the most affected communities, civil society and the private sector, as called for in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, within the framework of the "Three Ones" principles,

Noting that 2013 marks the halfway point between the setting of the target and the date when it should be met, and concerned that the coverage of HIV prevention services for people who use drugs, in particular people who inject drugs, provided in accordance with the international drug control treaties, is far from adequate in many countries with a high prevalence of HIV transmission among people who use drugs, in particular people who inject drugs, despite more than 30 years of the HIV/AIDS epidemic,

1. *Urges* Member States to strengthen their efforts to ensure continued political commitment to combating HIV/AIDS among people who use drugs, in particular people who inject drugs, and to strive to achieve the target set in the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: Intensifying Our Efforts to Eliminate HIV and AIDS[35] to reduce HIV transmission among people who inject drugs by 50 per cent by 2015;

2. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its leadership and guidance, to significantly expand its work with relevant civil society groups in order to address the gap in access to services for people living with or affected by HIV, including people who use drugs, in particular people who inject drugs, to tackle the issues of stigmatization and discrimination and to support increased capacity and resources for the provision of comprehensive prevention programmes and treatment, care and related support services, including for co-occurring common mental health disorders, in full compliance with the international drug control conventions and in accordance with national legislation, taking into account all relevant General Assembly resolutions;

[35] General Assembly resolution 65/277, annex.

3. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as the convening agency of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) for reducing HIV transmission among people who use drugs, in particular people who inject drugs, including those in prisons, to work with the other co-sponsors of UNAIDS, especially the World Health Organization and the UNAIDS secretariat, to implement, as appropriate, the *WHO, UNODC, UNAIDS Technical Guide for Countries to Set Targets for Universal Access to HIV Prevention, Treatment and Care for Injecting Drug Users: 2012 Revision*;[36]

4. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to support the World Health Organization in the implementation of its newly published *Guidance on Prevention of Viral Hepatitis B and C among People Who Inject Drugs*,[37] as appropriate, and encourages them to work together to ensure that health services for people who inject drugs include the elements set forth in that publication;

5. *Requests* Member States to ensure, in full compliance with the international drug control conventions and national legislation, that adequate access for people who use drugs, in particular people who inject drugs, to the nine interventions mentioned in the *Technical Guide* referred to above is provided, as appropriate, without stigma or discrimination and while ensuring gender equality;

6. *Strongly requests* Member States, in accordance with national legislation, to reinforce the coordination among relevant national authorities, inter alia, health, criminal justice and law enforcement authorities, as well as civil society, and to develop strategies to ensure that HIV prevention, treatment, care and support for people who use drugs, in particular people who inject drugs, are affordable, available and accessible in order to achieve maximum efficiency of those interventions, without stigma or discrimination and while ensuring gender equality;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide the leadership and guidance necessary to support Member States, upon request, in their efforts to scale up access to evidence-based HIV prevention, care, treatment and support services for people who inject drugs, including family-friendly services, especially for women who are pregnant and/or have young children;

8. *Recommends* that the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and UNAIDS develop and assist Member States, upon request, in implementing regional strategies to address HIV among people who use drugs, in particular people who inject drugs, both male and female;

9. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to inform Member States on a yearly basis about the measures taken to achieve a 50 per cent reduction in HIV transmission among people who use drugs, in particular people who inject drugs, by 2015;

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[36] *WHO, UNODC, UNAIDS Technical Guide for Countries to Set Targets for Universal Access to HIV Prevention, Treatment and Care for Injecting Drug Users: 2012 Revision* (Geneva, World Health Organization, 2012).

[37] *Guidance on Prevention of Viral Hepatitis B and C among People Who Inject Drugs* (Geneva, World Health Organization, 2012).

10. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary contributions for the purposes of the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

Resolution 56/7

Promoting the development and use of the international electronic import and export authorization system for licit international trade in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling article 31 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol[38] and article 12 of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[39] which require the issuance of import and export authorizations for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

Recalling also its resolution 55/6 of 16 March 2012, in which it encouraged Member States to provide the fullest possible financial and political support for developing, maintaining and administering an international electronic import and export authorization system for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances under international control, requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to undertake the development and maintenance of the system, and invites the secretariat of the International Narcotics Control Board to administer the system during the start-up phase in the current biennium,

Reaffirming the need to develop and utilize the system, which would facilitate the real-time exchange of import and export authorizations between importing and exporting countries in a safe and secure environment and allow competent national authorities to exchange information about transactions that need further processing,

Noting that there has been an increased volume of licit international trade in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, which is expected to continue to grow in the near future with the increased availability of those substances in more and more countries for medical and scientific purposes,

Reaffirming that the system, once put into operation, will assist competent national authorities in managing the increasing workload of processing import and export authorizations,

Noting that the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime has commenced the development work and that a prototype of the system will be available to be presented to Member States in due course,

Noting also that continuous financial support is required to allow the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to complete the first phase of the development work and maintain the system, and to support the secretariat of the International Narcotics Control Board in administering the system, in line with its mandate,

[38] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.
[39] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

1. *Welcomes* the voluntary financial contributions of a number of Member States to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to support the initial phase of development and maintenance of the international electronic import and export authorization system, and the progress achieved so far in this initiative;

2. *Invites* Member States to continue to provide voluntary financial contributions to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for the further development and maintenance of the international electronic import and export authorization system for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances under international control;

3. *Invites* the secretariat of the International Narcotics Control Board to administer the system, in line with its mandate, and encourages Member States to provide the fullest possible financial support for that purpose;

4. *Urges* Member States to commit to making the system operational within their jurisdictions as soon as possible, recognizing that domestic legal and regulatory changes may be necessary in some Member States to enable its use, and to promote and facilitate its use for the exchange of import and export authorizations among parties and as a basis for strengthening international cooperation, including through the International Narcotics Control Board;

5. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in full and close cooperation with the International Narcotics Control Board, to provide training to competent national authorities on the use of the system and the relevant provisions of the international drug control conventions and the related resolutions of the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

6. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for these purposes, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

Resolution 56/8

Promoting initiatives for the safe, secure and appropriate return for disposal of prescription drugs, in particular those containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances under international control

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[40] in which Member States stated their determination to tackle the world drug problem and to actively promote a society free of drug abuse,

Recalling also the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961[41] and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[42] as the two treaties governing

[40] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[41] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.

activities involving narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances under international control and the pharmaceutical products in which they are found,

Recalling further its resolution 53/4 of 12 March 2010, in which it stressed the importance of promoting adequate availability of internationally controlled licit drugs for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion and abuse, and its resolution 54/6 of 25 March 2011, in which it recalled its resolution 53/4,

Affirming the important role entrusted to the International Narcotics Control Board of ensuring, in cooperation with Member States and in line with the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, that the use of the drugs listed in those two conventions is limited to medical and scientific use and of preventing their diversion into illicit channels for trafficking and abuse, and the role of the World Health Organization in ensuring the appropriate use of medicines,

Acknowledging the recommendation made in the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2012 for Governments to formulate and implement effective awareness-raising and prevention strategies targeting the general public and the health-care professions, in which the Board further urged all Governments to take measures to prevent the diversion of prescription drugs, while at the same time ensuring their availability for licit purposes,[43]

Concerned that the non-medical use, misuse and abuse of prescription drugs, in particular those containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances under international control, have become an issue of increasing concern among some Member States because of their impact on public health and safety and community well-being,

Recognizing that in some Member States the rates of non-medical use, misuse and abuse of prescription drugs are rising and that in many cases, some prescription drugs containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances under international control remain in the home after they have expired or when the patient no longer requires them, and thus have the potential for diversion, non-medical use, misuse and abuse, often by young people,

Recognizing also that law enforcement agencies in some Member States have noted an increase in prescription drug-related crime,

Recognizing further that providing individuals with a safe, secure and appropriate way to return for disposal unused, unneeded and expired prescription drugs, in particular those containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances under international control, as part of comprehensive measures to address the non-medical use, misuse and abuse of prescription drugs, will help to raise awareness about the forms of harm associated with the non-medical use, misuse and abuse of prescription drugs, and potentially reduce the harms associated with accidental ingestion, abuse and diversion,

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[42] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

[43] See *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2012* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.XI.1).

Recognizing that inappropriate disposal of, inter alia, unused, unneeded and expired prescription drugs, including through waste management and wastewater, may have detrimental effects on the environment, for example on soil and water,

1. *Encourages* Member States to work with relevant partners and stakeholder groups, such as public health officials, pharmacists, pharmaceutical manufacturers and distributors, physicians, consumer protection associations and law enforcement agencies, in promoting greater public education about the risks associated with the long-term storage of prescription drugs in the home, in particular those containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances under international control, and the potential for their non-medical use, misuse, abuse and diversion;

2. *Acknowledges* that initiatives for the safe, secure and appropriate return for disposal of prescription drugs, in particular those containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances under international control, established in some Member States could serve as a model for others by helping to raise awareness of the forms of harm associated with the non-medical use, misuse and abuse of prescription drugs and reduce the amount of those drugs being diverted;

3. *Encourages* Member States, as appropriate, to consider the establishment or enhancement of such initiatives, as part of comprehensive measures to address the non-medical use, misuse and abuse of prescription drugs while bearing in mind the health-care systems, regulatory frameworks and legal systems of each Member State;

4. *Also encourages* Member States to exchange experiences and good practices in the establishment and operation of initiatives for the safe, secure and appropriate return for disposal of prescription drugs, and to share their experiences at a future session of the Commission.

Resolution 56/9

Strengthening of the principle of common and shared responsibility as the basis for guiding international action in combating the world drug problem with a comprehensive and balanced approach

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling the commitments undertaken by States within the framework of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[44] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[45] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[46]

[44] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.
[45] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.
[46] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

Reaffirming resolutions S-20/2, S-20/3 and S-20/4 A to E of 10 June 1998, adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, in which the Assembly adopted, respectively, the Political Declaration, the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem,

Reaffirming also the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[47] adopted by the Commission at the high-level segment of its fifty-second session and by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/182 of 18 December 2009,

Bearing in mind that in its resolution 54/12 of 25 March 2011, entitled "Revitalization of the principle of common and shared responsibility in countering the world drug problem", the Commission called upon the international community to engage in effective cooperation and practical action aimed at addressing the world drug problem on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility and reaffirmed that Member States should strengthen their mechanisms for cooperation and coordination in order to achieve results in countering the world drug problem more effectively,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 67/193 of 20 December 2012, 66/183 of 19 December 2011, 65/233 of 21 December 2010 and 64/182 of 18 December 2009, on international cooperation against the world drug problem, in which the importance of coordinated, comprehensive and balanced action by all States to address that phenomenon was reiterated and it was reaffirmed that the phenomenon remained a matter of common and shared responsibility,

Reaffirming the guiding principles of existing treaties in the field of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and the system of control they embody,

Aware that the world drug problem, including its political, economic, social and environmental costs, is a complex and dynamic phenomenon with many causes that poses a challenge to States and their Governments, and that, far from being a local or regional concern, the problem must be addressed in a comprehensive, balanced and multidisciplinary manner and therefore requires that all States assume common and shared responsibility,

Considering that the world drug problem, in its many aspects, affects almost all countries and must therefore be countered effectively with firm political will, on the basis of equal responsibilities and with international cooperation and coordination between all relevant actors at all levels,

Reiterating that, in order to be effective, measures to tackle the world drug problem require concerted and universal action and that such action requires international cooperation oriented by shared principles and common objectives as a basis for a comprehensive and balanced approach,

Recognizing, therefore, that the principle of common and shared responsibility is a pillar of international cooperation in countering the world drug problem,

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[47] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

Recognizing also that any weakening of international cooperation in the fight against the world drug problem could affect the sustainability of the results achieved at the national level in reducing illicit drug supply and demand,

Welcoming the efforts of countries that have worked for decades to counter the world drug problem and have acquired knowledge, experience and institutional capacities that enable them to afford cooperation to other countries, in application of the principle of common and shared responsibility,

Welcoming also the important efforts and experience of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in addressing the world drug problem,

Recognizing that the illicit cultivation of drug crops and the production, manufacture and distribution of, and in particular the traffic in, drugs of natural and synthetic origin and the diversion of medications for the purpose of drug abuse have come to form an industry that is in the hands of transnational criminal organizations, and also recognizing that substance abuse poses a serious threat to the health, dignity and hopes of millions of people and that the world drug problem therefore requires effective responses by all States,

1. *Recognizes* that common and shared responsibility is the principle that guides the individual and joint actions of all States and ensures their equal commitment to countering the world drug problem, in all its dimensions, encouraging ever greater international cooperation in strengthening national capacities on the basis of a comprehensive, balanced and multidisciplinary approach;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to continue, on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility, to strengthen their bilateral, regional, interregional and international cooperation mechanisms to address the world drug problem, in a universal manner and using a comprehensive and balanced approach;

3. *Urges* all Member States, on the basis of the comprehensiveness and balance required in addressing the world drug problem, to strengthen operational cooperation and the exchange of experiences that make it possible, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions, while enabling representatives of affected populations and civil society entities, where appropriate, to play a participatory role in the formulation and implementation of drug demand and supply reduction policy, to:

(a) Formulate more effective evidence-based drug demand reduction policies and programmes, with a focus on education, prevention, treatment and care and with a view to the social reintegration of persons addicted to drugs;

(b) Define comprehensive, evidence-based drug supply reduction policies that lead to more effective results in combating the illicit production, manufacture, trafficking, marketing and sale of drugs and the diversion of precursors for the manufacture of drugs of natural and/or synthetic origin;

4. *Invites* Member States to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, preferably in response to the annual report questionnaire, with information on their cooperation activities to address the world drug problem with a view to identifying priority areas in which such cooperation may be strengthened;

5. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to facilitate the exchange of experiences and good practices among Member States with respect to strategies to reduce illicit drug supply and demand and with respect to the international cooperation necessary to promote technical assistance projects and multilateral mechanisms aimed at addressing the world drug problem effectively;

6. *Encourages* Member States and relevant international and regional organizations, and invites financial institutions, to continue assistance to States to counter the world drug problem;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to include information on the progress made with regard to international cooperation and the work carried out by the Office in the implementation of the present resolution in the annual report of the Executive Director on the activities of the Office.

Resolution 56/10

Tools to improve data collection to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[48]

Considering that Member States committed themselves to implementing effectively the Political Declaration and Plan of Action through resolute international cooperation, in collaboration with relevant regional and international organizations, with the full assistance of the international financial institutions and other relevant agencies and in cooperation with civil society, including non-governmental organizations, as well as the private and public sectors,

Recognizing that despite the efforts that have been deployed, illicit cultivation, production, manufacturing, distribution and trafficking of drugs have been increasingly consolidated into a criminally organized industry generating enormous amounts of money, laundered through the financial and non-financial sectors,

Also recognizing that illicit demand for drugs remains a threat to health in all Member States and poses a particular risk to youth,

Acknowledging the progress made by the international community in its effort to fully enforce international drug control, and aware of the challenges that still exist in the field,

[48] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

Recalling that 2019 has been set as a target date for States to eliminate or reduce significantly and measurably the illicit cultivation of opium poppy, coca bush and cannabis plant, the illicit demand for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, drug-related health and social risks, the illicit production, manufacture, marketing and distribution of, and trafficking in, psychotropic substances, including synthetic drugs, the diversion of and illicit trafficking in precursors, and money-laundering related to illicit drugs,

Reaffirming its resolution 53/16 of 2 December 2010, entitled "Streamlining of the annual report questionnaire", in which it adopted the annual report questionnaire and requested Member States to return the duly completed questionnaire by 30 June of each year to enable the Secretariat to make a meaningful analysis of the drug control situation and report to the Commission,

Taking into account that Member States committed themselves to report biennially to the Commission on the efforts to fully implement the Political Declaration and Plan of Action,

Recalling that a high-level review of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action will take place within the framework of the Commission at its fifty-seventh session, in 2014,

Considering General Assembly resolutions 64/182 of 18 December 2009 and 65/233 of 21 December 2010, in which the Assembly encouraged the meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies and of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to continue to contribute to the strengthening of regional and international cooperation,

Bearing in mind that the meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies and of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East are responsible for identifying policy issues at the regional level to promote the best ways to address the regional dynamics of the world drug problem,

Considering General Assembly resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012, in which the Assembly decided to convene a special session in 2016 to assess progress in the implementation of the Political Declaration and the Plan of Action,

Recognizing the need for strengthening data-collection mechanisms and capacities to monitor and evaluate the Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,

1. *Urges* Member States to provide, on a yearly basis, timely, accurate and reliable data by completing all relevant parts of the annual report questionnaire;

2. *Requests* the meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission to contribute to the monitoring of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem[49] at the regional level by discussing regional views on progress made in this regard under

[49] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

the agenda item entitled "Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem";

3. *Encourages* Member States to provide to the meetings of the subsidiary bodies more detailed information on progress made in the implementation by Member States of the Plan of Action, based on the annual report questionnaire;

4. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide the subsidiary bodies with substantive guidance for their deliberations on progress made in the implementation of the Plan of Action, based on the information contained in the replies by Member States of the various regions to the annual report questionnaire, with a view to filling any possible information gaps and making relevant recommendations;

5. *Encourages* Member States, in consultation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to devote the topic of at least one of the working groups at the meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission to the follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, on the basis of the reports submitted by States to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

6. *Also encourages* Member States to consider the expertise and composition of their delegations to the meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission, with a view to covering the various aspects of the world drug problem (demand, supply and international cooperation) in order to hold substantive discussions on the issue and to actively participate in the agenda item entitled "Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem";

7. *Requests* the meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission, on the basis of their deliberations, to submit regional recommendations aimed at moving forward in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action;

8. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to make full use of the data provided by Member States through the meetings of the subsidiary bodies when preparing the biennial reports of the Executive Director on action taken by Member States to implement the Political Declaration and Plan of Action;

9. *Suggests* that, in the framework of the organizational arrangements for the special session of the General Assembly in 2016, the reports be considered by the Commission as an input to the review of progress in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments;

10. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to assist, upon request, Member States in strengthening and, where appropriate, developing their data-collection and reporting capacities, including the analysis and dissemination of data;

11. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for these purposes, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

Resolution 56/11

Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: recommendations of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling its resolution 52/13 of 20 March 2009, entitled "Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime", in which it decided to establish a standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on governance and finance, in order to achieve the common objective of strengthening the performance and effectiveness of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council decision 2009/251 of 30 July 2009, entitled "Frequency and duration of the reconvened sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice", in which the Council decided that, starting in 2010, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice would hold reconvened sessions on an annual basis in the second half of the year, in order to be able, pursuant to Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/13 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 18/3 of 24 April 2009, to consider the reports of and the recommendations proposed by the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

Reaffirming the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the principal policymaking organ of the United Nations on matters of international drug control and as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

Reaffirming also its resolution 54/10 of 25 March 2011, entitled "Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: recommendations of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime",

Concerned about the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and aware of the urgent need to continue addressing that issue in a pragmatic, results-oriented, efficient and cooperative manner,

1. *Takes note* of the work of and the note by the Secretariat on the work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the

governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime[50] in accordance with Commission resolutions 52/13 and 54/10;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the co-chairs of the working group for their work and to the Secretariat for its assistance in facilitating the work of the working group, including by providing, inter alia, updates on the financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and briefings and presentations on thematic and regional programmes to the working group, as well as on evaluation and oversight issues, and requests the Secretariat to continue providing such necessary assistance, bearing in mind the limited resources available to it;

3. *Welcomes* the established practice of having a clear schedule of meetings and programme of work for the working group, as well as other measures taken with a view to improving the functioning and efficiency of the working group, requests that a draft agenda for each meeting of the working group be distributed no later than 10 working days before the meeting, accompanied by all the relevant documents for the meeting, and reiterates the importance of the development of an indicative annual workplan by Member States, taking into account input from the Secretariat and providing, as appropriate, for review of the format and organization of work of the group, with a view to improving its effectiveness;

Continuous support for promoting a culture of evaluation within the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime at all stages of programme planning, development and implementation

4. *Recalls* that the working group has been provided with numerous presentations on evaluation findings, on which occasions participants have reiterated the importance of having a sustainable, effective and operationally independent corporate evaluation function at the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, particularly one focused on the overall objectives, implementation, performance and impact of thematic and regional programmes;

5. *Requests* the working group to continue addressing evaluation-related matters, and invites the Independent Evaluation Unit to continue:

(a) Providing the working group with evaluation findings on the thematic and regional programmes of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

(b) Consulting with the working group on a road map of current and future activities and results;

(c) Promoting a culture of evaluation throughout the Office at all stages of programme planning, development and implementation;

(d) Working with the Office in monitoring the implementation of recommendations made by relevant oversight bodies;

Continuous support for promoting an integrated programme approach

6. *Recalls* that the working group has been provided with the initial evaluation findings on the integrated programme approach, which show that the approach can help the Office to acquire an integrated regional and thematic

[50] E/CN.7/2013/7-E/CN.15/2013/7 and Add.1.

perspective and achieve benefits in terms of improved linkages and synergies between policy, strategic planning, programmatic work, mobilization of resources and partnerships with all relevant stakeholders;

7. *Emphasizes* that the working group, in its formal and informal meetings, has provided a constructive forum for dialogue among Member States and between Member States and the Secretariat on the development of the programmes of the Office, and recommends strengthening such dialogue;

8. *Requests* the working group to:

(a) Continue consulting and supporting the development of the integrated programme approach of the Office, inter alia, where appropriate, by moving from a project-based to a programme-based approach;

(b) Continue discussing the integrated programme approach and improving its organization-wide implementation by the Office and its governing bodies at all stages of the programme cycles;

(c) Draw on the evaluation findings and lessons learned from experiences with the approach, including, as appropriate, when discussing fundraising matters;

Continuous support for strengthening the financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

9. *Recalls* General Assembly resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012, in which the Assembly urged all Governments to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the Office by widening its donor base and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general-purpose contributions, so as to enable it to continue, expand, improve and strengthen, within its mandates, its operational and technical cooperation activities, expressed concern regarding the overall financial situation of the Office, emphasized the need to improve the cost-effective utilization of resources by the Office and requested the Secretary-General to submit proposals in his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 to ensure that the Office had sufficient resources to carry out its mandates;

10. *Also recalls* that the working group has, on several occasions, discussed fundraising issues and ways to achieve a sustainable and balanced funding structure for the Office so as to ensure delivery capacity and the sustainability of thematic and regional programmes;

11. *Requests* the working group to give appropriate attention to the issue of supporting the funding situation and financial management of the Office and assist the Commission in becoming more actively engaged, with further transparency, in the biennial consolidated budget process, including its special-purpose funding part, inter alia, by:

(a) Receiving reports on and concrete examples of activities funded through full cost recovery, and facilitating the optimization of the resource mobilization process, in order to help to transparently and holistically promote integrated regional and thematic programmes along with their resource requirements, to enhance funding predictability and contribute to the coherence of the programmatic activities of the Office with the overall priorities and objectives within its mandate;

(b) Examining ways to promote the financial sustainability of the Office, including through the elaboration, on the basis of a suggestion from the Office, of a system that encourages the sustainability of contributions in order to ensure delivery capacity, improve administrative efficiency and provide increased incentives for soft earmarking at the programme level and for multi-year funding;

(c) Providing continued support for streamlined and results-based programmatic and financial reporting at the outcome level, including by adopting at its first informal meeting following the sessions of the two Commissions held in the first half of 2013, on the basis of a proposal of the co-chairs of the working group, with the support of the Secretariat, and on the basis of requests by Member States, a cycle aimed at promoting transparency and encouraging involvement among relevant stakeholders, as well as dialogue between Member States and the Secretariat, through which the working group can receive and discuss:

(i) Results-based reports on individual programmes, as well as a summary overview of programmes of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including priorities, results and implementation, in particular the funding situation and funding gaps and their impact on the delivery capacity of the Office;

(ii) Presentations by the Secretariat on the strategic framework for the period 2012-2013, the strategy for the period 2012-2015 and any updates on their implementation, as well as the strategic framework for the period 2014-2015;

(d) Continuing to provide a platform for Member States to, inter alia, exchange views on the existing challenges to the financial and administrative sustainability of the Office and its activities, with a view to shaping consensually acceptable approaches to properly address these challenges in a cooperative manner, including by means of preparing recommendations to the Commission in order to facilitate further decision-making by the latter;

Continuing support to the Commission in monitoring the implementation of resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission

12. *Also requests* the working group to continue discussing progress made with regard to the implementation of resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission;

13. *Requests* the Secretariat to submit a short and concise report on the implementation of resolutions adopted since 2012 to the Commission at its fifty-eighth session, in 2015, for its consideration, through the working group, as appropriate.

Resolution 56/12

Preparations for the high-level review of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[51] adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, in which Member States decided that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, at its fifty-seventh session, in 2014, should conduct a high-level review of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action,

Recalling also its resolution 53/16 of 2 December 2010, in which the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime was requested to prepare and submit to the Commission, on a biennial basis, on the basis of the responses provided by Member States to the annual report questionnaire, a single report on action taken to implement the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, the first of which was to be examined by the Commission at its fifty-fifth session, in 2012,

Taking note of the report of the Executive Director on action taken by Member States to implement the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[52]

Considering that the high-level review is part of the process of assessing progress in meeting the goals and targets set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and in finding ways to enhance their implementation to overcome the challenges encountered in addressing the world drug problem,

Welcoming the important role played by civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations, in addressing the world drug problem, recalling with appreciation their important contributions to the preparatory process for the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, and stressing the relevance of the contributions of civil society to the review by Member States of the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action,

Recalling that Member States committed themselves to implementing effectively the Political Declaration and Plan of Action through resolute international cooperation, in collaboration with relevant regional and international organizations, with the full assistance of international financial institutions and other relevant agencies and in cooperation with civil society, including non-governmental organizations, as well as the private and public sectors,

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[51] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[52] E/CN.7/2012/14 and Corr.1.

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012, in which States were called upon to take, in a timely manner, the measures necessary to implement the actions and attain the goals and targets set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action,

Noting that the General Assembly, in its resolution 67/193, decided to convene, in early 2016, a special session on the world drug problem to review the progress made in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments, and decided to conduct the special session and its preparatory process from within existing resources,

Conscious of its role as the central United Nations policymaking body on drug-related issues,

1. *Decides* that the high-level review of the progress made in the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem[53] shall be held during the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in 2014, for a period of two days, in addition to the five days usually scheduled for the regular sessions of the Commission in the first half of the year;

2. *Also decides* that the theme of the high-level review shall be "Progress achieved and challenges in implementing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem";

3. *Further decides* that the high-level review shall consist of a general debate on the theme referred to in paragraph 2 above and round-table discussions on the three pillars of the Plan of Action:

(a) Demand reduction: reducing drug abuse and dependence through a comprehensive approach;

(b) Supply reduction: reducing the illicit supply of drugs; control of precursors and of amphetamine-type stimulants; and international cooperation on eradicating the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and on alternative development;

(c) International cooperation: countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation;

4. *Resolves* that a brief joint ministerial statement shall be issued at the conclusion of the high-level review, identifying, on the basis of the review of the progress made in the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, achievements, challenges and priorities for further action, in the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments;

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[53] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

5. *Also resolves* that the outcome of the high-level review shall be submitted to the General Assembly for its consideration, in view of, inter alia, the special session of the Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016;

6. *Decides* that intersessional meetings shall be held before the high-level review, within existing regular budget resources, devoted to preparing for the high-level review and to assessing the progress made in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action;

7. *Reiterates its call upon* Member States to submit, in a timely manner and no later than 30 June 2013, their replies to the annual report questionnaire for the preparation of the second report of the Executive Director on action taken by Member States to implement the Political Declaration and Plan of Action;

8. *Decides* that the medium-term review, including intersessional meetings, shall take into account contributions by Member States, as well as:

(a) The report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on action taken by Member States to implement the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[54] considered by the Commission at its fifty-fifth session;

(b) The outcome of the thematic round-table discussions of the Commission at its fifty-third through fifty-sixth sessions;

(c) Relevant studies and reports from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Narcotics Control Board, the subsidiary bodies of the Commission and other relevant United Nations agencies;

(d) Other relevant information related to the world drug problem from relevant international and regional organizations;

(e) Other relevant information related to the world drug problem from civil society and the private sector;

9. *Calls upon* the participants in the high-level review to take account of the work of the regional meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, in particular initiatives that could further cooperation with regard to drug law enforcement;

10. *Invites* Member States and observers to participate actively at the appropriate level in the high-level review segment;

11. *Recommends* to the General Assembly that the Commission, as the central policymaking body within the United Nations system dealing with drug-related matters, play its leading role in the preparatory process for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be convened in early 2016, including by presenting its proposals, through the Economic and Social Council, regarding progress made in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem.

[54] E/CN.7/2012/14 and Corr.1.

Resolution 56/13

Precursors: raising awareness on the diversion in international trade of non-scheduled substances for use as alternatives to scheduled substances in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[55] in particular article 12, which lays down the principles and mechanisms for international cooperation and control regarding substances frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

Recalling also the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[56] in which it was decided to establish 2019 as a target date for States to eliminate or reduce significantly and measurably the diversion of and trafficking in substances frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

Recalling further its resolution 54/8 of 25 March 2011, in which the Commission recalled United Nations resolutions calling on Member States to increase international and regional cooperation in order to counter the illicit manufacture of and trafficking in drugs, including by strengthening the control of international trade in substances frequently used in the illicit manufacture of drugs and preventing attempts to divert those substances from licit international trade to illicit use,

Concerned that efforts to reduce the illicit supply of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and maintain effective control of scheduled substances are being undermined by drug traffickers, who are increasingly using non-scheduled substances as substitutes for scheduled substances in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

Mindful of the increasing quantities of non-scheduled substances seized, intercepted or interdicted worldwide,

Re-emphasizing that the prevention of diversion of non-scheduled substances is a key element in reducing the illicit manufacture and supply of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

Recognizing the legitimate need of industry to have access to non-scheduled substances and the important role that industry plays in preventing the diversion of those substances from the licit trade,

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[55] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

[56] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

Recalling article 12, paragraph 9 (a), of the 1988 Convention, which underlines the importance of cooperation between competent authorities and industries in the identification of suspicious transactions,

Recognizing the important work of the International Narcotics Control Board as the principal body and global focal point for the international surveillance of non-scheduled substances,

Reiterating the importance of further strengthening existing international cooperation mechanisms for the control of precursors and the need for States to participate in international operations, such as Project Prism and Project Cohesion, with a view to gathering intelligence on the licit trade patterns and diversion of targeted non-scheduled substances in relation to specific geographical areas,

Recalling its resolution 51/16 of 14 March 2008, aimed at promoting the sharing of information regarding the use of non-scheduled substances as substitutes for scheduled substances frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and new methods of manufacture of illicit drugs,

Noting that the International Narcotics Control Board has urged Member States to improve the extent, frequency and level of detail of shared information in relation to non-scheduled substances, as a basis for devising adequate responses,

Emphasizing that it is critical that Member States and relevant organizations implement and use existing measures and work in a cooperative manner to prevent the diversion and use of non-scheduled substances for the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

Recalling the provisions of article 13 of the 1988 Convention, which could provide a basis for national responses to the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances involving non-scheduled substances,

Aware of the difficulties in countering the diversion of non-scheduled substances worldwide, and believing that their diversification and increased use as substitutes for scheduled substances require the urgent attention of the international community,

1. *Requests* the International Narcotics Control Board, in close cooperation with Member States, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant organizations, to take a leading role in devising new approaches and appropriate measures to better address the issue of non-scheduled substances used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

2. *Invites* Member States to acknowledge the growing trend of specific non-scheduled substances being targeted by criminal groups for the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances as a consequence of stringent control over scheduled substances;

3. *Also invites* Member States to reiterate to all stakeholders the importance of cooperation between authorities, industries and related sectors to facilitate the identification of suspicious transactions of non-scheduled substances in order to prevent their diversion to the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

4. *Encourages* Member States to raise the awareness of competent authorities, industries and related sectors regarding the risk of non-scheduled substances being utilized for the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances by improving understanding of the use of non-scheduled substances and the related diversion methods;

5. *Invites* Member States and relevant regional and international organizations to communicate, to the extent possible, legitimate needs for the use of non-scheduled substances, as identified by the International Narcotics Control Board, in accordance with its mandate, to one another and to the Board, in addition to operational information, in order to promote cooperation and effective coordination;

6. *Encourages* Member States to make better use of the *Guidelines for a Voluntary Code of Practice for the Chemical Industry*,[57] the limited international special surveillance list of the International Narcotics Control Board and any similar list maintained by Member States, as appropriate, in order to further strengthen their partnership with industries and related sectors;

7. *Invites* Member States to exercise increased vigilance over imports, exports and transit, in particular through their customs and border control authorities, in order to identify suspicious consignments of non-scheduled substances;

8. *Recommends* that competent authorities register and use the Precursors Incident Communication System as a means of systematically sharing information about incidents involving not only scheduled substances but also non-scheduled substances;

9. *Requests* the International Narcotics Control Board to maintain and further develop the Precursors Incident Communication System and the Pre-Export Notification Online system;

10. *Encourages* Member States that are in a position to do so to consider sending pre-export notifications, to the extent possible, by using the Pre-Export Notification Online system, for consignments of selected non-scheduled substances, as identified by the International Narcotics Control Board, in accordance with its mandate, in order to enable authorities in the country of destination to verify the licit purpose of transactions and to react adequately;

11. *Encourages* Member States and relevant international organizations to cooperate closely with the International Narcotics Control Board, in particular through its Project Prism and Project Cohesion, in order to enhance the effectiveness of those international initiatives.

[57] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.XI.17.

Resolution 56/14

Strengthening international cooperation in addressing the non-medical use and abuse, the illicit manufacture and the illicit domestic and international distribution of tramadol

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[58] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[59] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[60]

Recognizing that tramadol is a centrally acting, synthetic opioid analgesic not under international control, is available in many countries as a medicine and is used as an effective treatment for moderate to severe pain,

Concerned at the expansion of the illicit manufacture and the illicit domestic and international distribution of tramadol in some countries,

Deeply concerned about the growing non-medical use and abuse of tramadol in many Member States, as evidenced by large seizures of such preparations in Africa and other regions, as referred to in the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2012,[61]

Concerned about the potential opportunities for transnational organized criminal groups to profit from the non-medical sale and illicit domestic and international distribution of tramadol,

Recalling its resolution 48/1 of 11 March 2005, on promoting the sharing of information on emerging trends in the abuse of and trafficking in substances not controlled under the international drug control conventions,

Acknowledging the importance of early warning mechanisms and rapid and global dissemination of information on drugs, drug combinations and drug abuse patterns, as well as the efforts made by States members of the European Union, together with the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, in this area,

Recalling its resolution 53/4 of 12 March 2010 on promoting adequate availability of internationally controlled narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion and abuse,

Reaffirming that ensuring access to controlled narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes is one of the fundamental objectives of the international drug control conventions,

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[58] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

[59] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

[60] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

[61] *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2012* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.XI.1).

Noting that a number of countries have taken steps to place tramadol under national control in order to limit its non-medical use and abuse,

Emphasizing that systematic research is crucial to the assessment of the broader health and social implications associated with the non-medical use and abuse of tramadol,

Noting that reducing, in a comprehensive and proactive manner, both demand for and supply of tramadol for non-medical purposes requires strong political commitment,

1. *Encourages* Member States, in particular those that have not taken any measures of national control over tramadol, to monitor emerging trends in the unauthorized importation, exportation and distribution of tramadol, as well as patterns in the non-medical use and abuse of that substance within their own national borders, in accordance with national legislation;

2. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization, the International Narcotics Control Board and other relevant organizations to share and exchange, through bilateral and multilateral channels, information on those emerging trends, in particular with regard to patterns of non-medical use and abuse, risks to public health, forensic analysis data and drug regulations, as appropriate;

3. *Encourages* Member States to adopt appropriate comprehensive measures aimed at preventing and reducing the non-medical use and abuse and illicit supply of tramadol, in accordance with their national legislation;

4. *Urges* Member States to adopt appropriate comprehensive measures to ensure the adequate availability of substances for medical and scientific purposes, while simultaneously preventing their abuse, diversion and trafficking;

5. *Also urges* Member States, on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility, to strengthen international cooperation, in accordance with their national laws, in law enforcement activities to combat the illicit manufacture and illicit domestic and international distribution of tramadol;

6. *Invites* the International Narcotics Control Board to consider incorporating in its report for 2013, to be submitted to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-seventh session, information on global developments in the non-medical use and abuse, illicit manufacture and illicit domestic and international distribution of tramadol;

7. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission at its fifty-seventh session on progress made with respect to the activities described in the present resolution.

Resolution 56/15

Follow-up to the Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem with respect to the development of strategies on voluntary marketing tools for products stemming from alternative development, including preventive alternative development

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Bearing in mind the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[62] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[63] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[64]

Recalling the commitments set out in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session[65] and the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[66] adopted in 2009, in particular paragraph 49 (b) of the Plan of Action, in which Member States were advised that they should develop strategies consistent with domestic legal frameworks, including the utilization of local expertise, capacity-building and entrepreneurship, to develop products through alternative development programmes identified on the basis of market demand and value-added production chains, as well as secure and stable markets with fair prices for producers, in accordance with international trade rules, including the required infrastructure and a conducive environment, including roads, the establishment of farmer associations and the use of special marketing regimes, for example those based on fair-trade principles and commerce in organic products,

Reaffirming its resolution 55/8 of 16 March 2012, entitled "Follow-up to the Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem with respect to the development of strategies on special marketing regimes for alternative development, including preventive alternative development",

Considering that alternative development, including, where appropriate, preventive alternative development, constitutes an international policy founded on the principle of common and shared responsibility that seeks to significantly reduce and eliminate the cultivation of illicit crops and to prevent illicit activities relating to the world drug problem in countries affected by that problem and those vulnerable to illicit activities,

Taking into account the need to strengthen and renew international cooperation measures in order to be able to effectively address the changing dynamics of the world drug problem,

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[62] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

[63] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

[64] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

[65] General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.

[66] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

Recognizing that a stamp could enhance the effectiveness of alternative development and preventive alternative development programmes and projects,

Taking note with appreciation of the high-level International Conference on Alternative Development, held in Lima from 14 to 16 November 2012, and welcoming the Lima Declaration on Alternative Development, including the International Guiding Principles on Alternative Development,[67]

Taking into account the presentation and dissemination of the proposal by Ecuador at the fifty-sixth session of the Commission and elsewhere on its preventive alternative development efforts,

1. *Invites* interested Member States, consistent with applicable international trade rules, to explore, in close cooperation with relevant international organizations, international financial institutions, private sector partners, civil society and other interested parties, opportunities for international cooperation to expand their efforts with regard to the development of strategies on voluntary marketing tools for products stemming from alternative development, including preventive alternative development;

2. *Invites* Member States, relevant international organizations, including the World Trade Organization, private sector partners and other interested parties to continue to engage in dialogue and to share experiences and proposals on voluntary marketing tools in the field of alternative development, including preventive alternative development, such as a stamp for products stemming from alternative development programmes, and invites them to consider these issues at an international workshop on the matter to be hosted by the Government of Ecuador in Quito;

3. *Welcomes* the proposal of the Government of Ecuador, in consultation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to host an international workshop to continue the dialogue to consider strategies and possible pilot projects on voluntary marketing tools for products stemming from alternative development, including, where appropriate, preventive alternative development.

Resolution 56/16

Enhancing international cooperation to strengthen efforts in West Africa to counter illicit drug trafficking

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[68] in particular its article 35, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[69] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[70] as well as the provisions of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized

[67] E/CN.7/2013/8, annex.
[68] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.
[69] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.
[70] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

Crime and the Protocols thereto,[71] the United Nations Convention against Corruption[72] and all other relevant international instruments,

Reaffirming that the world drug problem has to be addressed in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[73] and, in particular, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principles of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, all human rights, fundamental freedoms, the inherent dignity of all individuals and the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States,

Recalling the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[74] taking into account the principle of common and shared responsibility,

Concerned that illicit drug traffic in West Africa, including transit to international markets, has a negative impact on the region and on the international community,

Recalling its resolution 54/14 of 25 March 2011 on measures to support African States in their efforts to combat the world drug problem, and, in follow-up, its resolution 55/9 of 16 March 2012,

Recalling also its resolution 51/18 of 14 March 2008, in which it invited Member States and relevant international organizations to intensify their efforts in support of those West African States most affected by the problem of drug trafficking, and its resolution 53/8 of 12 March 2010, in which it recognized the importance of strengthening international, transregional and regional cooperation to counter the world drug problem and other criminal activities related to drugs,

Welcoming the adoption of the African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control (2013-2017) at the fifth session of the African Union Conference of Ministers of Drug Control, held in Addis Ababa from 8 to 12 October 2012, acknowledging the progress made by African States in combating the world drug problem, and reaffirming the importance of viable and sustainable alternative development programmes aimed at contributing to the fight against the trafficking of illicit drugs,

Taking note of the report of the Secretariat on action taken by the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,[75] and welcoming the draft resolution on the Accra declaration recommended for adoption to the Commission by the Twenty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa, held in Accra from 25 to 29 June 2012,[76]

Recognizing the importance of the programmes and initiatives developed and/or implemented by the African Union, the Economic Community of West

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[71] Ibid., vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

[72] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

[73] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

[74] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[75] E/CN.7/2013/5.

[76] See UNODC/HONLAF/22/5.

African States and African States, including in partnership with the United Nations, in particular the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the framework of its regional programme for West Africa for the period 2010-2014, and other international partners, and welcoming the contributions undertaken by the international community to support the implementation of those programmes and initiatives,

Concerned that the progress made by the States in West Africa in the areas of safety, stability, governance and socioeconomic development may be undermined by the flow of illicit drug traffic,

Mindful that the threats to safety and stability generated by ongoing crises in the region increase the importance of addressing the problem of drug trafficking in West Africa,

Recognizing the need to take measures to prevent illicit drug use and abuse and to address their health and social consequences, as well as to prevent and combat the illicit cultivation, production, manufacturing and trafficking of drugs and the diversion of their chemical precursors, and the importance of continued international cooperation to that end,

Welcoming in this regard the decision of the Authority of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States at its forty-first ordinary session, held in Yamoussoukro on 28 and 29 June 2012, to renew their political commitment to the fight against drug trafficking and to support the implementation of the Regional Action Plan to Address the Growing Problem of Illicit Drug Trafficking, Organized Crime and Drug Abuse in West Africa (2008-2011), adopted at the Economic Community of West African States Ministerial Conference on Drug Trafficking as a Security Threat to West Africa, held in Praia in October 2008, and also welcoming the reaffirmation by the Authority of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States at its forty-second ordinary session, held in Yamoussoukro on 27 and 28 February 2013, of its political commitment to the Political Declaration on the Prevention of Drug Abuse, Illicit Drug Trafficking and Organized Crime in West Africa, prepared at Praia and adopted by the Authority of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States at its thirty-fifth ordinary session, held in Abuja in December 2008, the above-mentioned Regional Action Plan and the decision to extend the period of the Regional Action Plan by two years in order to sustain the fight against this scourge and to consolidate the base of financial support for its effective implementation,

Recognizing that most States in West Africa require technical and financial support to respond effectively to the problems of illicit cultivation, production, manufacturing, abuse and trafficking of drugs, in line with the principle of common and shared responsibility,

1. *Encourages* the Economic Community of West African States to pursue the implementation of the Regional Action Plan to Address the Growing Problem of Illicit Drug Trafficking, Organized Crime and Drug Abuse in West Africa, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to further strengthen its efforts to support the Economic Community of West African States through its regional programme for West Africa for the period 2010-2014;

2. *Welcomes* the contributions by the European Union to provide assistance, including efforts to strengthen institutions in the fight against drug trafficking, and to further cooperate with the Economic Community of West African States and the African Union, especially to mobilize resources to partner with the Economic Community of West African States in the implementation of the Political Declaration, and the regional programme for West Africa for the period 2010-2014, and invites the international community, in particular the European Union, to take all appropriate measures in order to ensure further support, including financing and burden-sharing;

3. *Urges* Member States to continue and step up their efforts to combat drug trafficking, including through the implementation of the Political Declaration and Regional Action Plan, to strengthen cooperation among themselves and especially to support their national agencies and other relevant actors in working together and intensifying their international cooperation to counter the world drug problem and criminal activities related to drugs, and stresses in this regard the need to strengthen the transnational cooperation of law enforcement agencies, information exchange and mutual legal assistance, in particular in West Africa;

4. *Invites* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Member States to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, to support the Economic Community of West African States and Member States in these efforts;

5. *Urges* Member States to further strengthen efforts to reduce the illicit supply and demand of drugs, in line with the principle of common and shared responsibility;

6. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for these purposes, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

7. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

Decision 56/1

Transfer of *gamma*-hydroxybutyric acid from Schedule IV to Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971

4. At its 3rd meeting, on 13 March 2013, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, upon recommendation of the World Health Organization, decided, by 41 votes to 1, with no abstentions, to transfer *gamma*-hydroxybutyric acid (GHB) from Schedule IV to Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971.[77]

[77] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

Chapter II

Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions

5. At its 2nd and 4th meetings, on 11 and 13 March 2013, the Commission considered agenda item 3, which read as follows:

> "Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions.
>
> "(a) Work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and policy directives;
>
> "(b) Role of the Commission as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;
>
> "(i) Strengthening the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;
>
> "(ii) Administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions."

6. For its consideration of item 3, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Report of the Executive Director on the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2013/3-E/CN.15/2013/3);

(b) Report of the Executive Director on the implementation of the consolidated budget for the biennium 2012-2013 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2013/6-E/CN.15/2013/6);

(c) Note by the Secretariat on the work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2013/7-E/CN.15/2013/7 and Add.1).

7. At the 2nd meeting, the Director of the Division for Management, the Director of the Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs and the Chief of the Financial Resources Management Service of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) made introductory statements. The representative of Spain, in his capacity as co-chair of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, also made an introductory statement.

8. Statements were made by the representatives of Guatemala (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States), Japan, China, the Republic of Korea, Canada and the United States.

9. Statements were also made by the observers for Switzerland, Morocco, Norway, Sweden and Argentina.

A. Deliberations

10. Several speakers welcomed the work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and expressed their appreciation for the work of its co-chairs. Speakers also expressed their support for the extension of the mandate of the working group and highlighted that it had a crucial role to play in improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC.

11. Speakers encouraged UNODC to continue the open dialogue with the working group to reinforce the transparency and accountability of the Office. It was noted that, while the working group had facilitated discussion and mutually satisfactory outcomes, more remained to be done to achieve further results.

12. The work of UNODC in helping Member States to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and its pivotal role in addressing the world drug situation were acknowledged. The work carried out by UNODC in the areas of drug demand reduction, supply reduction, crop monitoring, prevention, treatment and rehabilitation, as well as in addressing HIV/AIDS, was noted. UNODC and its governing bodies were requested to continue to be actively involved in discussions on the post-2015 development agenda so as to ensure that their substantive scope of work was given adequate recognition.

13. Several speakers stressed the importance of mainstreaming human rights and gender issues in the activities undertaken by UNODC, as well as the importance of further promoting the openness to civil society, including non-governmental organizations.

14. Appreciation was expressed by a number of speakers for the development and implementation of regional and thematic programmes carried out by UNODC. The progress made by UNODC in the past few years in pursuing the integrated programming approach was recognized. Several speakers noted the importance of promoting a culture of evaluation and of the work of the Independent Evaluation Unit in enhancing the transparency and accountability of UNODC. Speakers expressed their appreciation for efforts already made in strategic planning, while at the same time they encouraged UNODC to further develop its capacities in planning, monitoring, reporting and evaluation, especially at the programme level, which would encourage increased soft earmarking and contributions to the general-purpose fund.

15. Speakers stressed the importance of providing regular results-based reporting at the programme level, suggesting that this should be the default reporting method for UNODC, while tailor-made reports requested by donor States should be fully costed.

16. Several speakers expressed concern that increases in special-purpose contributions had not been matched by corresponding increases in general-purpose funding. Some speakers expressed their readiness to contribute unearmarked funding, as well as to contribute voluntary earmarked funding, and encouraged other Member States to reflect their commitment to UNODC by also providing general-purpose funding. Speakers expressed concern that UNODC continued to work with less than 1 per cent of the regular budget of the United Nations, and recognized the need for stable and predictable funding for UNODC. Speakers expressed their commitment to reviewing the draft fundraising strategy and the new policies of full direct cost recovery through the working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and requested the Secretariat to provide detailed information on the use of the general-purpose fund and the programme support cost fund in that context. One delegation noted the positive trends in increasing earmarked contributions, as well as cost-sharing by Member States, and suggested that this demonstrated strong confidence in the work of UNODC.

B. Action taken by the Commission

17. At its 4th meeting, on 13 March 2013, the Commission adopted a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the budget for the biennium 2012-2013 for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme", as contained in E/CN.7/2013/6-E/CN.15/2013/6, annex II. (For the text of the resolution, see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 56/1.)

18. At its 8th meeting, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2013/L.11/Rev.1) sponsored by Austria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Guatemala (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States), Italy, Norway, Portugal, Romania, the Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the Sudan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Sweden, Switzerland and the United States. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 56/11.)

19. At the same meeting, the Commission approved for adoption by the Economic and Social Council a draft decision (E/CN.7/2013/L.12) sponsored by Austria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Guatemala (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States), Italy, Norway, Portugal, Romania, the Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the Sudan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Sweden and the United States. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. B, draft decision II.) Prior to the adoption of the draft decision, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of its adoption. (For the text, see E/CN.7/2013/CRP.5, available on the UNODC website.)

20. At the 8th meeting, on 15 March 2013, at the time of the adoption of the draft report, the representative of China made a statement expressing hope that UNODC would continue increasing financial and human resources assistance and support for the drug control efforts of the countries in the Golden Triangle area.

Chapter III

Round-table discussions on progress made in the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem

21. On 12 March 2013, the Commission considered agenda item 5, entitled "Round-table discussions on progress made in the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem", comprising the following topics:

(a) Demand reduction and related measures;

(b) Supply reduction and related measures;

(c) Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation to enhance international cooperation.

22. For its consideration of agenda item 5, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Note by the Secretariat on the organization of the round-table discussions at the fifty-sixth session of the Commission (E/CN.7/2013/13);

(b) Informal discussion notes distributed by the Chairs of the round-table discussions (E/CN.7/2013/CRP.1);

(c) Background paper on international standards on drug use prevention (E/CN.7/2013/CRP.4).

A. Deliberations

Round table on demand reduction and related measures: drug prevention as a means to curb the world drug problem within the framework of a scientific evidence approach

23. The round table on the topic "Drug prevention as a means to curb the world drug problem within the framework of a scientific evidence approach" was chaired by Carmen Masías, President of the National Commission for Development and Life without Drugs (DEVIDA) of Peru.

24. The Chair summarized the salient points of the round-table discussion as follows:

(a) Participants emphasized the importance of drug prevention as a pillar of a health-centred and balanced drug control system at the national and international levels. Such a system was mandated by the three international drug control conventions, which did not call for the criminalization of personal drug use, but for drug prevention, treatment and care;

(b) Some participants noted that violence related to drug trafficking was a growing problem that needed to be tackled through a balanced and comprehensive approach; the importance of practising the principle of common and shared responsibility was highlighted in this context;

(c) Member States stated that drug prevention should target groups and individuals that were particularly at risk, such as children and youth. Particular attention should also be paid to situations of social marginalization and poverty, which rendered people vulnerable to drug abuse. Participants described their ongoing prevention initiatives in diverse settings, such as families, schools and the workplace, as well as various types of awareness-raising activities, including through the media;

(d) Member States emphasized that it was crucial to reach people who had started to experiment with drugs in order to prevent their transitioning to drug dependence. Some participants noted that alcohol use could have a negative effect on drug prevention, as there was scientific evidence that it could function as a "gateway drug", that is, it could lead to the abuse of other drugs. The growing problem posed by new psychoactive substances was also emphasized;

(e) Speakers noted that there was no "magic prevention formula" and that isolated or short-term interventions were not sufficient. Therefore, a range of interventions and policies was necessary, depending on the local context. This in turn required effective coordination among different sectors, including local communities and civil society;

(f) Participants emphasized that more scientific research was needed on the effectiveness of drug prevention interventions and policies, particularly in developing countries, as well as the development and use of methodologies for evaluating them. Speakers noted that it was also necessary to increase the technical capacity of providers of prevention services in some countries;

(g) Drug-prevention interventions and policies were viewed as effective and cost-effective in preventing drug use and its health and social consequences; nonetheless, drug prevention was often severely underfunded, a problem that needed to be tackled;

(h) Speakers emphasized that the 2014 high-level review of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem could serve as an opportunity to evaluate more closely the existing challenges to effective drug prevention.

Round table on supply reduction and related measures: the importance of international cooperation, coordination and funding to promote relevant activities and programmes on all aspects of alternative development in support of the drug control regime established by the three international drug control conventions, within a broader international framework

25. The round table on the topic "The importance of international cooperation, coordination and funding to promote relevant activities and programmes on all aspects of alternative development in support of the drug control regime established

by the three international drug control conventions, within a broader international framework" was chaired by Simona Marin (Romania), Third Vice-Chair of the Commission.

26. The Chair summarized the salient points of the round-table discussion as follows:

(a) The importance of the principle of common and shared responsibility and of a systemic approach to alternative development that takes into account the specific needs of different communities was reiterated;

(b) Support was expressed for the International Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, and Member States were called upon to use them in designing and implementing alternative development programmes;

(c) Participants noted the work and expertise of UNODC in the area of alternative development and called on UNODC to continue providing guidance and technical assistance, in cooperation with relevant international agencies;

(d) Speakers highlighted the importance of viewing alternative development as part of comprehensive drug control strategies, as well as its viable role in addressing poverty reduction, food security and socioeconomic development. Additionally, participants emphasized the need to incorporate alternative development into broader development approaches at the national and international levels;

(e) Participants emphasized the importance of a market-driven approach for products stemming from alternative development, considering their added value, as well as the need to ensure quality through the production chain linked to both national and international markets. It was noted that free-trade agreements were useful tools in marketing substitute crops;

(f) Speakers noted the need to identify key performance indicators and to conduct joint surveys and evaluations of alternative development projects, which would contribute to measuring programmes at the outcome and impact levels;

(g) Speakers referred to the need for cooperation with research centres to identify and ensure the use of economically viable, ecologically friendly and sustainable crops in alternative development;

(h) Participants emphasized the need to consider the environmental impact of alternative development interventions and to integrate environmental conservation into alternative development programmes;

(i) Participants expressed the importance of considering alternative development as a long-term endeavour, recognizing that no country or institution could address the issue on its own, and stressed the need for an integrated approach requiring the engagement of the broader development community and the international financial institutions to ensure long-term financial sustainability;

(j) The importance of establishing special marketing regimes for products stemming from alternative development was also mentioned;

(k) Some participants noted that alternative development programmes should be implemented in conjunction with eradication activities and border controls when undertaking supply reduction activities;

(l) The need to broaden bilateral and multilateral cooperation in the area of alternative development, including a continued exchange of best practices and lessons learned within the framework of South-South cooperation, was highlighted;

(m) It was noted that, for alternative development to be successful, a number of preconditions might be required, including rule of law, law enforcement, safety and security, and access to basic social services, as well as infrastructure, such as irrigation systems.

Round table on countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation to enhance international cooperation: the importance of further strengthening the operational implementation of treaty-based provisions on international cooperation, including for countering money-laundering and preventing the illicit cross-border movement of cash and monetary instruments

27. The round table on the topic "The importance of further strengthening the operational implementation of treaty-based provisions on international cooperation, including for countering money-laundering and preventing the illicit cross-border movement of cash and monetary instruments" was chaired by Bajrakitiyabha Mahidol (Thailand), Second Vice-Chair of the Commission.

28. The Chair summarized the salient points of the round-table discussion as follows:

(a) Member States highlighted that the problems of drug trafficking, transnational organized crime and corruption were closely linked to money-laundering. They emphasized that a multidisciplinary approach was required to effectively combat money-laundering;

(b) Member States shared national experiences gained in countering money-laundering linked to trafficking in narcotic drugs and related crimes, including in undertaking a range of specific measures to prevent and combat money-laundering. They also highlighted challenges, good practices, and progress made in implementing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem;

(c) Some Member States noted that strong domestic legal regimes were required to address the problems of money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, and that such laws should be harmonized with international standards. Participants stated that such legislation needed to be more effectively implemented;

(d) In conducting financial investigations, it was noted that bank secrecy and tax havens continued to pose challenges. Several States underlined that simultaneous investigations related to money-laundering should be conducted in parallel with investigations related to predicate offences, such as drug trafficking and other criminal activities. Some Member States referred to challenges related

to proving the origin of funds and assets in cases of money-laundering and asset forfeiture;

(e) Member States noted the need to establish mechanisms in order to identify, investigate and seize criminal assets, and drew attention to the need to build the capacity of law enforcement agencies to perform those tasks. Several participants expressed the view that a good understanding of financial investigations was a necessary skill among key practitioners. Participants highlighted the benefits of recovering criminal assets and addressed the need for asset-sharing arrangements between States cooperating to confiscate the proceeds of crime. Non-conviction-based confiscation was mentioned as an example of good practice;

(f) Participants stated that collaboration and coordination across borders were essential in order to effectively tackle money-laundering, with a view to preventing safe havens for criminals. Participants stressed the importance of enhanced cooperation at the international, regional and national levels that was aimed at strengthening the sharing of information among relevant agencies, including financial intelligence units, police investigators, prosecutors and other criminal justice officials. Some Member States noted the need to create specialized anti-money-laundering units within law enforcement institutions and to provide specialized training for judges and prosecutors in order to effectively deal with money-laundering cases;

(g) Several participants emphasized that better use should be made of existing cooperation mechanisms and platforms, citing, for example, the Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units, which facilitated information-sharing between financial intelligence units. Many participants also urged Member States to share information between law enforcement agencies via formal and informal means;

(h) Member States urged greater regional and international cooperation through bilateral memorandums of understanding and arrangements for mutual legal assistance. The utility of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption in enhancing national legislation and promoting international cooperation against money-laundering and drug trafficking was stressed;

(i) The development and use of informal cooperation methods, such as joint training sessions, the placement of liaison officers and participation in informal regional networks, such as the Camden Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network, were encouraged. Some participants also recommended that UNODC continue its work in assisting Member States, including at the regional level, to implement international standards and norms for countering money-laundering.

B. Action taken by the Commission

29. At the 8th meeting, on 15 March 2013, at the time of the adoption of the draft report, the representative of Ecuador stated that, during the round table on supply reduction and related measures, reference was also made to preventive alternative development in the context of the discussions, in particular with regard to the issues reflected in paragraphs 26 (a) and (j) above. In the context of the discussions reflected in paragraph 26 (j), reference was also made to a global stamp for products stemming from alternative development.

Chapter IV

Implementation of the international drug control treaties

30. At its 3rd and 4th meetings, on 13 March 2013, the Commission considered agenda item 4, which read as follows:

"Implementation of the international drug control treaties:

"(a) Changes in the scope of control of substances;

"(b) International Narcotics Control Board;

"(c) International cooperation to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion;

"(d) Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties."

31. For its consideration of items 4 (b)-(d), the Commission had before it the following:

(a) *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2012* (E/INCB/2012/1);

(b) *Precursors and Chemicals Frequently Used in the Illicit Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances: Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2012 on the Implementation of Article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988* (E/INCB/2012/4);

(c) Report of the Executive Director on the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2013/3-E/CN.15/2013/3);

(d) *Competent National Authorities under the International Drug Control Treaties* (ST/NAR.3/2012/1);

(e) Note by the Secretariat on other matters arising from the international drug control treaties (E/CN.7/2013/CRP.3).

32. Introductory statements were made by the President of the International Narcotics Control Board, the Chief of the Drug Prevention and Health Branch, the Chief of the Laboratory and Scientific Section and the Chief of the Research and Trend Analysis Branch.

33. Statements were made by the representative of Guatemala (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States) and the observer for Ireland (on behalf of the European Union and Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Iceland, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Ukraine, as well as Liechtenstein and Norway). Statements were also made by the representatives of Belgium, Japan, China, Thailand, the United States, Côte d'Ivoire, India, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Australia.and Algeria and by the observers for Argentina, Switzerland, Nigeria and the Sudan. Statements were also made by the observer for the World Health Organization (WHO), as well as by the observers for DrugScope, the Union for International Cancer Control and Human Rights Watch.

34. The Secretary General of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe made a statement.

A. Deliberations

1. Changes in the scope of control of substances

35. At its 3rd meeting, on 13 March 2013, the Commission considered agenda item 4 (a), entitled "Implementation of the international drug control treaties: changes in the scope of control of substances".

36. For its consideration of item 4 (a), the Commission had before it:

(a) Note by the Secretariat on changes in the scope of control of substances (E/CN.7/2013/11 and Add.1);

(b) Draft decision submitted by the Chair on the transfer of *gamma*-hydroxybutyric acid from Schedule IV to Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 (E/CN.7/2013/L.18).

37. Introductory statements were made by the Director of the Division for Treaty Affairs of UNODC and the observer for WHO. Statements were made by the representatives of Turkey, Canada, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Netherlands, Austria, China, Belarus, Australia, the United Kingdom and Mexico. A statement was also made and by the observer for Switzerland.

(a) Transfer of gamma-*hydroxybutyric acid from Schedule IV to Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971*

38. The Commission had before it for its consideration the recommendation from WHO to transfer *gamma*-hydroxybutyric acid (GHB) from Schedule IV to Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971. That recommendation had been transmitted by the Secretary-General to Member States for comments, in notes verbales dated 9 November and 27 December 2012, to which the notification and the information in support of the recommendation were annexed. The Commission took note of the two-thirds majority of the members of the Commission required for the decisions provided for in articles 2 and 3 of the 1971 Convention, in accordance with article 17, paragraph 2, of that Convention.

(b) Dronabinol and its stereoisomers

39. It was recalled that, in the communication from the Director General of WHO to the Secretary-General dated 22 October 2012, it was stated that the WHO Expert Committee on Drug Dependence was unaware of any new evidence that was likely to materially alter the scheduling recommendation submitted to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fiftieth session, in March 2007, and that the decision to move dronabinol and its stereoisomers from Schedule II to Schedule III of the 1971 Convention should stand.

40. Concern was expressed by several delegations that, despite the recommendation received from WHO, no decision had yet been taken by the Commission to reschedule dronabinol and its stereoisomers. Some delegations said that there was no clinical evidence that would impede the rescheduling of dronabinol. Another speaker mentioned that the treaty-based procedure was not

sufficiently clear on how to deal with a "standing" recommendation. A number of speakers said that they were not able to support the recommendation made by WHO regarding dronabinol, as that recommendation could hinder efforts to prevent international cannabis abuse and could send a confusing message regarding the harm associated with the use of cannabis. It was suggested that WHO should continue reviewing that substance.

(c) Other issues

41. Concern was expressed by many delegations regarding the decision of the WHO Expert Committee on Drug Dependence not to recommend ketamine for scheduling under international control. It was noted that the manufacture, trafficking and abuse of ketamine had been increasing and that illicit use of ketamine was associated with extensive harm to health. Participants said that further discussion was required and they welcomed the continued work that would be conducted by WHO in relation to ketamine.

2. International Narcotics Control Board

42. Many speakers expressed appreciation and support for the work of the International Narcotics Control Board, and recognized its role in monitoring the implementation of the international drug control conventions and in ensuring the availability of internationally controlled substances for licit uses. Some speakers noted that international drug control activities must be carried out with full respect for human rights. Many speakers expressed appreciation for the quality of the Board's reports for 2012, and encouraged the implementation of its recommendations. Welcoming the thematic chapter of the Board's annual report for 2012 on shared responsibility in drug control, many speakers called for a renewal of that principle, on which the international drug control system had been founded. Some speakers noted the timeliness of that thematic chapter, in view of preparations for the high-level review of the progress made in the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, to be held during the fifty-seventh session of the Commission, in 2014, and the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem, to be held in 2016. One speaker wondered whether, in the context of the preparatory process for those events, the time might not have come to review some of the precepts and principles of the treaties. Three speakers requested clarification of specific issues addressed in the Board's report for 2012. Governments were encouraged to provide the Board with information on new developments and measures taken.

43. One speaker, speaking on behalf of a regional group, noted that the Board had conducted a number of missions to the Latin American and Caribbean region in 2012 and emphasized the importance of continued dialogue between Member States and the Board.

44. Some speakers noted the reaccession of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol, with a reservation on coca leaf; it was also noted that the reservation applied only in the territory of that country and that it gave rise to further obligations on the part of that country.

45. Some speakers emphasized the fine balance between ensuring the availability of controlled substances for licit purposes and preventing diversion. To that end,

many speakers welcomed and expressed support for the development of the international electronic import and export authorization system, as requested by the Commission in its resolution 55/6. One speaker encouraged the Board to continue its work in assessing the availability of internationally controlled substances and analysing disparities.

46. Many speakers expressed appreciation for the role played by the Board in the coordination of international efforts in the control of precursors frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. Many speakers stressed the importance of the Pre-Export Notification (PEN) Online system and welcomed the launch in 2012 of the Precursors Incident Communication System (PICS). A number of speakers called for urgent international attention to address the increased use of chemicals not under international control in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

47. Many speakers expressed concern about new psychoactive substances, including cannabinoids, and some speakers indicated that Governments should avoid sending messages that could be misinterpreted. In that context, the need to ensure appropriate scheduling of substances was emphasized. One speaker suggested that the problem of new psychoactive substances should be considered during both the high-level review to be held during the fifty-seventh session of the Commission, in 2014, and the special session of the General Assembly, in 2016. Many speakers noted with concern the increasing trafficking in and abuse of ketamine in various regions. They encouraged WHO to conduct a balanced analysis of the substance and invited Governments to furnish relevant information to WHO and the International Narcotics Control Board. The Board was also invited to continue collecting information on the national control of ketamine, noting that the substance was already under national control in a number of countries. Many speakers expressed concern about the increased diversion and abuse of pharmaceutical preparations.

48. A number of speakers underlined the importance of building the capacity of competent national authorities and technical assistance, and called for the support of Member States and UNODC, in cooperation with the Board. Many speakers provided information on measures taken at the national and regional levels to address the drug problem, as well as on trends in drug abuse and illicit drug cultivation, manufacture and trafficking.

3. International cooperation to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion

49. Many speakers expressed appreciation for the valuable work carried out by the International Narcotics Control Board, UNODC and WHO in ensuring the availability of internationally and domestically controlled drugs for medical purposes, through, inter alia, the development of model legislation, policies and technical assistance in the education and training of health professionals. Some speakers indicated that, despite recent increased availability of controlled substances for medication, a great number of individuals were still suffering from significant pain, especially in developing countries. Speakers presented their efforts regarding policy development, training and education for health workers, as well as the monitoring and collection of data related to pain control for cancer patients.

50. Many speakers reiterated the importance of ensuring the availability of narcotic drugs under international control for pain relief while preventing their diversion, in compliance with obligations set out in the international drug control conventions. Furthermore, speakers noted that the misuse of pain medication posed a public health challenge, which in turn required a response from Governments that included strong legislation and the effective monitoring of all areas of the drug control system.

51. The need to address challenges posed by new psychotropic substances and the use of cannabis seeds for illicit cultivation was stressed. Speakers also noted that the International Narcotics Control Board, UNODC and WHO should play an active role in the implementation of resolution 55/1, entitled "Promoting international cooperation in responding to the challenges posed by new psychoactive substances".

B. Action taken by the Commission

52. At its 3rd meeting, on 13 March 2013, the Commission decided by 41 votes to 1, with no abstentions, to transfer *gamma*-hydroxybutyric acid (GHB) from Schedule IV to Schedule II of the 1971 Convention. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. C, decision 56/1.)

53. At its 8th meeting, on 15 March 2013, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2013/L.2/Rev.1) sponsored by Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, Romania, the Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Slovenia, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, the United States and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). (For the text, see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 56/4.) Prior to the adoption of the revised draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of its adoption. (For the text, see E/CN.7/2013/CRP.5, available on the UNODC website.)

54. At the same meeting, on 15 March 2013, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2013/L.3/Rev.1) sponsored by Albania, Argentina, Croatia, Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Israel, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Norway, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Switzerland, Thailand, Ukraine and the United States. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 56/5.) Prior to the adoption of the revised draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of its adoption. (For the text, see E/CN.7/2013/CRP.5, available on the UNODC website.)

55. At the same meeting, on 15 March 2013, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2013/L.6/Rev.1) sponsored by Albania, Australia, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Egypt, India, Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Libya, Mexico, Norway, the Russian Federation, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey and the United States. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 56/7.) Prior to the adoption of the revised draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of its adoption. (For the text, see E/CN.7/2013/CRP.5, available on the UNODC website.)

56. At the same meeting, on 15 March 2013, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2013/L.7/Rev.1) sponsored by Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, the Czech Republic, Finland, Hungary, Israel, Libya, Norway, Slovenia and the United States. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 56/8.)

57. At the same meeting, on 15 March 2013, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2013/L.14/Rev.1) sponsored by Albania, Australia, Chile, Croatia, Egypt, India, Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Israel, Libya, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, the Russian Federation, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United States and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). (For the text, see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 56/13.)

58. At the same meeting, on 15 March 2013, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2013/L.15/Rev.1) sponsored by Belarus, Italy, the Sudan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom and the United States. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 56/14.)

Chapter V

Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem

59. At its 5th, 6th and 7th meetings, on 14 and 15 March 2013, the Commission considered agenda item 6, which read as follows:

> "Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem:
>
> "(a) Demand reduction and related measures;
>
> "(b) Supply reduction and related measures;
>
> "(c) Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation to enhance international cooperation."

60. For its consideration of item 6, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug abuse (E/CN.7/2013/2);

(b) Report of the Executive Director on the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2013/3-E/CN.15/2013/3);

(c) Report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug trafficking (E/CN.7/2013/4);

(d) Report of the Executive Director on the outcome of the high-level International Conference on Alternative Development (E/CN.7/2013/8);

(e) Note by the Secretariat on promoting coordination and alignment of decisions between the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (E/CN.7/2013/9);

(f) Report of the Executive Director on follow-up to the Third Ministerial Conference of the Paris Pact Partners on Combating Illicit Traffic in Opiates Originating in Afghanistan (E/CN.7/2013/12);

(g) Background paper on international standards on drug use prevention (E/CN.7/2013/CRP.4).

61. The Chief of the Research and Trend Analysis Branch and the Chief of the Drug Prevention and Health Branch of UNODC made introductory statements. Statements were made by the observer for Ireland (on behalf of the European Union and Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Iceland, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Ukraine, as well as Liechtenstein and Norway) and by the representatives of Guatemala (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States), the Republic of Korea, Israel, Italy, Thailand, France, India, Japan, Canada, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Algeria, Belarus, Brazil, Guatemala, the United States, Turkey and Egypt. Statements were also made by the observers for Ecuador,

Tunisia, Kazakhstan, Portugal, South Africa, Nigeria, Lebanon, Norway, Switzerland, the Sudan, Burkina Faso, Finland, Indonesia, Argentina and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Statements were also made by the observers for the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission of the Organization of American States, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, the Colombo Plan for Cooperative Economic and Social Development in Asia and the Pacific, Release Legal Emergency and Drugs Service and the Society Studies Centre.

A. Deliberations

1. Demand reduction and related measures

62. Many speakers reaffirmed the importance of evidence-based drug prevention in the context of a health-centred, comprehensive and balanced approach and welcomed the publication by UNODC of the *International Standards on Drug Use Prevention*.

63. The challenge posed by new psychoactive substances and other substances not under international control was emphasized, with some delegations reporting that their Governments had begun to place those substances under control at the domestic level.

64. Some speakers expressed concern regarding the lack of data and information on the results of demand reduction strategies, particularly in view of the high-level review of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem to be conducted in 2014, and called on Member States to strengthen their efforts in the collection, production and reporting of objective and reliable data. Speakers noted the need for technical assistance, particularly for training, as well as resources, in order to be able to improve the collection and production of data.

65. Several speakers described national efforts for drug prevention and the treatment of drug dependence and noted that the delivery of services in that regard needed to be based on scientific evidence and to respect human rights. In that regard, the position paper entitled "UNODC and the promotion and protection of human rights" was welcomed. Furthermore, speakers emphasized the need for the training of health practitioners and for adequate resources to ensure the accessibility of treatment services. Some speakers also noted the important role that civil society, including non-governmental organizations, played in delivering demand reduction services. Several speakers stressed the need to intensify efforts in carrying out risk and harm reduction strategies, in particular in view of the targets set by the General Assembly in the 2011 Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: Intensifying Our Efforts to Eliminate HIV and AIDS. Some speakers noted that harm reduction may not necessarily be applicable and effective for all countries.

2. Supply reduction and related measures

66. Several speakers reaffirmed their firm commitment to the goals and targets of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, as well as to an integrated, multidisciplinary and balanced approach to tackling the world drug problem.

67. The outcome of the high-level International Conference on Alternative Development, including the Lima Declaration and the International Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, was welcomed, and speakers expressed their appreciation to the Governments of Peru and Thailand for their efforts.

68. Speakers reiterated the importance of the principle of common and shared responsibility and acknowledged that alternative development was a key element in reducing the supply of illicit drug crops. The need for alternative development, including preventive alternative development, taking into account environmental protection, in particular in vulnerable areas, was highlighted. Speakers noted that sustainable alternative development programmes should be mainstreamed into a larger development agenda, with a view to addressing root causes, including poverty and the lack of opportunities.

69. A proposal to develop a special and voluntary marketing regime, under international trade rules, and with a view to developing a stamp for products stemming from alternative development, including preventive alternative development, was mentioned.

70. The essential role of bilateral and international cooperation, including South-South cooperation, and the exchange of information and best practices in the area of alternative development was also noted.

71. Speakers referred to the threat posed to national health and security by the illicit manufacture, trafficking and abuse of drugs. Reference was made to efforts to amend national legislation in order to more effectively prevent the manufacture of new psychotropic substances that were not currently under control. Precursor control was considered central to effective supply reduction strategies. The use of new communication technologies to facilitate the distribution of illicit drugs and new psychoactive substances was mentioned.

72. Several speakers noted that a multidisciplinary approach to dismantling organized criminal groups involved in drug trafficking was required. Inter-agency cooperation at all levels, the exchange of information, best practices and criminal intelligence, and cross-border coordination among authorities were identified as effective measures in countering drug trafficking.

73. One delegate, speaking on behalf of a regional group, expressed opposition to the use of the death penalty in all cases and under any circumstances.

74. Support was expressed for the work and programmes of UNODC, including the regional programme for Afghanistan and neighbouring countries for the period 2011-2014 and the global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends (SMART) programme, as well as for regional initiatives, such as the Paris Pact initiative.

3. Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation to enhance international cooperation

75. Speakers expressed their concern regarding the links between drug trafficking and other forms of transnational organized crime, including money-laundering. Efforts to tackle the financial structure of criminal organizations were considered crucial.

76. Some delegations noted that it was necessary to criminalize money-laundering and harmonize national laws with international standards. Several speakers also

highlighted the importance of regulatory regimes to ensure that suspicious financial information was properly reported to authorities.

77. Several speakers underscored that effective regional and international cooperation was required, and some speakers noted the need for increased bilateral and multilateral efforts in judicial cooperation, including through mutual legal assistance, extradition and controlled deliveries.

78. Several speakers underlined the need for financial intelligence units to exchange information with their counterparts, as well as with other law enforcement agencies.

79. Many speakers emphasized that strong preventive and enforcement measures were crucial for countering money-laundering. Speakers stressed the need to establish mechanisms to identify, trace, investigate, freeze and confiscate assets derived from criminal activities. Delegations indicated that law enforcement agencies required further capacity-building in order to perform such tasks and to detect and combat financial crimes committed using new technologies.

80. Speakers highlighted various achievements made in their jurisdictions, such as the establishment of specialized financial crime units within their law enforcement authorities and the successful tracking of illicit financial transactions and confiscation of the proceeds of crime. Challenges in conducting effective financial investigations included the existence of protected offshore jurisdictions and tax havens.

B. Action taken by the Commission

81. At its 8th meeting, on 15 March 2013, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2013/L.10/Rev.1), sponsored by Austria, Belarus, Finland, France, India, Italy, Norway, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the United States. (For the text, see chap. I. sect. C, resolution 56/3.) Prior to the adoption of the revised draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of its adoption. (For the text, see E/CN.7/2013/CRP.5, available on the UNODC website.) Upon the adoption of the revised draft resolution, the representative of Afghanistan stated that, after two decades of war and conflict, Afghanistan, with the support of the international community, had made significant progress in all social, economic and political areas and was strongly committed to fighting illicit drugs, making efforts at the national level and actively participating in all regional and international mechanisms. The speaker also expressed appreciation for the Paris Pact initiative in addressing the problem of illicit drugs as a global challenge, which required a balanced and comprehensive approach on the part of the international community, based on the principle of shared responsibility. The representative of Afghanistan also expressed appreciation for the efforts of the delegation of the Russian Federation and all the other States that had contributed to the resolution. The speaker stated that the delegation of Afghanistan had a reservation regarding some elements of the resolution, in particular its title. He noted that his delegation had joined the consensus as a sign of Afghanistan's strong commitment to the work of the Paris Pact initiative and of Afghanistan's appreciation for the support of the initiative, through the partner countries.

82. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2013/L.4/Rev.1) sponsored by Albania, Andorra, Australia, Costa Rica, Croatia, El Salvador, Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Israel, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Saint Lucia, Switzerland and the United States. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 56/6.) Prior to the adoption of the revised draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of its adoption. (For the text, see E/CN.7/2013/CRP.5, available on the UNODC website.)

83. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2013/L.8/Rev.1) sponsored by Australia, Guatemala (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States), Israel, the Sudan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), the United Kingdom and the United States. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 56/9.)

84. Also at the same meeting, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2013/L.9/Rev.1) sponsored by Australia, Guatemala (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States), Israel, Norway, Spain, the Sudan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and Turkey. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 56/10.) Prior to the adoption of the revised draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of its adoption. (For the text, see E/CN.7/2013/CRP.5, available on the UNODC website.)

85. At the same meeting, the Commission recommended to the Economic and Social Council the approval of a revised draft resolution for adoption by the General Assembly (E/CN.7/2013/L.16/Rev.1) sponsored by Albania, Australia, Austria, the Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Guatemala (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States), Hungary, Italy, Japan, the Russian Federation, Slovenia, Spain, the Sudan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Ukraine, the United Kingdom and the United States.

86. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2013/L.17/Rev.2) sponsored by Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Ecuador, Germany and Spain. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 56/15.)

Chapter VI

World situation with regard to drug trafficking and recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission

87. At its 7th meeting, on 15 March 2013, the Commission considered agenda item 7, entitled "World situation with regard to drug trafficking and recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission". For its consideration of the item, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug trafficking (E/CN.7/2013/4);

(b) Report of the Secretariat on action taken by the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/CN.7/2013/5).

88. The Chief of the Implementation Support Section of the Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch of UNODC made an introductory statement. Statements were made by the representatives of Guatemala (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States), Ghana, Thailand, the Republic of Korea, Guatemala and Turkey.

89. Statements were also made by the observers for Pakistan and Indonesia. The observer for the Academic Council on the United Nations System made a statement as well.

A. Deliberations

90. Speakers welcomed the report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug trafficking, and commented that such timely and comprehensive national data, submitted through the annual report questionnaire, were essential to the analysis of the latest trends in illicit drug production and trafficking worldwide.

91. The representatives of Guatemala, Ghana, Thailand and Turkey reported on the outcomes of the meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies and of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, in their capacity as host countries, while the representative of Pakistan reported on the outcome of the thirty-sixth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, in view of the chairmanship by Pakistan of that meeting.

92. Several speakers welcomed the recommendations adopted by the meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies and the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East. Speakers also reiterated the usefulness of such meetings in providing senior law enforcement authorities the opportunity to meet, network and discuss cooperation at the operational level. The importance of shared responsibility and of strengthening regional cooperation was noted as well.

93. Many speakers expressed serious concerns regarding the significant increase in the production, trafficking and widespread use of amphetamine-type stimulants, as well as the need to exercise effective controls over precursor chemicals used in their

illicit manufacture. Speakers noted the emergence of new psychotropic substances, as well as trends in the modi operandi of drug traffickers, who had been utilizing sea containers and international mail and parcel services.

94. Speakers agreed on the need to strengthen cooperation between authorities in undertaking investigations of drug trafficking operations and of the individuals involved. A number of speakers welcomed the improvements in international cooperation, in particular in the area of alternative development, as demonstrated by exchanges of information and the sharing of best practice.

B. Action taken by the Commission

95. At its 7th meeting, on 15 March 2013, the Commission adopted a draft resolution entitled "Accra declaration", as contained in document E/CN.7/2013/5, section II. (For the text of the resolution, see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 56/2.)

96. At its 8th meeting, on 15 March 2013, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2013/L.5/Rev.1) sponsored by Albania, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and the Russian Federation. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 56/16.) Prior to the adoption of the revised draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of its adoption. (For the text, see E/CN.7/2013/CRP.5, available on the UNODC website.)

Chapter VII

Preparations for the high-level review of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem

97. At its 7th meeting, on 15 March 2013, the Commission considered agenda item 8, entitled "Preparations for the high-level review of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem.

98. Statements were made by the representatives of Guatemala (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States) and Thailand. The observers for the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse and DrugScope made statements as well.

A. Deliberations

99. It was noted that the Political Declaration and Plan of Action provided an adequate framework for States in addressing the world drug problem and that the high-level review would demonstrate the political will of States to set political goals in order to respond to the drug situation and changing trends.

100. Several speakers welcomed the decision of the General Assembly, in its resolution 67/193, to convene in early 2016 a special session of the Assembly on the world drug problem, following the high-level review of the progress made in the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action by the Commission at its fifty-seventh session, in March 2014.

101. Speakers reaffirmed their commitment to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and expressed their support for the organization of the high-level review in 2014. It was noted that the high-level review would constitute an essential step in preparing for the special session of the General Assembly. The importance of the Commission in the preparatory process for the special session was highlighted.

102. The importance of evaluating and improving the effectiveness of strategies and instruments available and applied, in responding to the global drug problem in all its dimensions and under the principle of shared responsibility, was noted. The need to encourage international cooperation and enhance existing partnerships, including South-South cooperation, was mentioned.

103. Reference was made to the summary of discussions of the second informal civil society hearing, where it was noted that civil society organizations were working to support the uptake and implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, and that civil society, if involved meaningfully, could make a valuable contribution to the high-level review. In this regard, one speaker stated that in some countries new approaches to preventing drug-related health problems and tackling organized crime and violence were being implemented.

B. Action taken by the Commission

104. At its 8th meeting, on 15 March 2013, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2013/L.13/Rev.1) sponsored by Australia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Israel, Norway, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, the Sudan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Ukraine and the United States. (For the text of the resolution, see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 56/12.) Prior to the adoption of the revised draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of its adoption. (For the text, see E/CN.7/2013/CRP.5, available on the UNODC website.)

Chapter VIII

Provisional agenda for the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

105. At its 7th meeting, on 15 March 2013, the Commission considered agenda item 9, entitled "Provisional agenda for the fifty-seventh session of the Commission". For its consideration of the item, the Commission had before it the draft provisional agenda prepared by the extended Bureau of the Commission (see E/CN.7/2013/L.19).

106. The Chair of the Commission made an introductory statement, noting that the extended Bureau of the Commission had endorsed the proposed provisional agenda for the fifty-seventh session, with the understanding that consultations on the agenda would continue during the intersessional period.

107. Statements were made by the representatives of Canada, the United States, the Russian Federation, Austria, Japan and Pakistan. A statement was also made by the observer for the Sudan.

A. Deliberations

108. A proposal was made to amend the provisional agenda for the fifty-seventh session by including an additional sub-item entitled "Challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Organization in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations", under item 10, entitled "Implementation of the international drug control treaties". It was noted that the inclusion of this sub-item was proposed in order to assist Member States in applying the existing scheduling procedures as contained in the three international drug control treaties. The need for more information on the existing scheduling procedures in order to achieve a better understanding of the process and of the Commission's role with respect to Member States was underlined, as was the importance of strong coordination, communication and cooperation between UNODC, WHO and the International Narcotics Control Board.

109. The need for funding to facilitate the work of the WHO Expert Committee on Drug Dependence was mentioned.

110. One speaker stated that the proposal to amend the provisional agenda would be acceptable, with the understanding that deliberations under item 10 (a) would be used to strengthen, rather than weaken, the international control of substances.

B. Action taken by the Commission

111. At its 7th meeting, on 15 March 2013, the Commission adopted the draft decision containing the draft provisional agenda for the fifty-seventh session of the Commission, as orally amended (E/CN.7/2013/L.19). (For the text, see chap. I, sect. B, draft decision I.)

Chapter IX

Other business

112. At its 7th meeting, on 15 March 2013, the Commission considered agenda item 10, entitled "Other business". No issues were raised under the agenda item.

Chapter X

Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-sixth session

113. At its 8th meeting, on 15 March 2013, the Commission considered agenda item 11, entitled "Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-sixth session". The Rapporteur introduced the draft report (E/CN.7/2013/L.1 and Add.1-4).

114. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the report on its fifty-sixth session, as orally amended.

Chapter XI

Organization of the session and administrative matters

A. Informal pre-session consultations

115. At its reconvened fifty-fifth session, held in Vienna on 6 and 7 December 2012, the Commission adopted decision 55/1, entitled "Organization of work for the future sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs". In that decision, the Commission decided, inter alia, that the firm deadline for the submission of draft resolutions to be considered at the part of the fifty-sixth session to be held in the first half of 2013 would be three weeks prior to the commencement of that part of the session. Furthermore, the Commission decided to reaffirm the established practice that for future sessions of the Commission, the part of the session held in the first half of the year would be preceded by informal pre-session consultations, with interpretation, to be held on the working day preceding the first day of that part of the session.

116. At the informal pre-session consultations chaired by the First Vice-Chair, held on 8 March 2013, the Commission conducted a preliminary review of draft proposals that had been submitted by the established deadline of 18 February 2013 and dealt with organizational matters of the fifty-sixth session, as well as with the provisional agenda for the fifty-seventh session.

B. Opening and duration of the session

117. The Commission held its fifty-sixth session in Vienna from 11 to 15 March 2013. The Commission held a total of eight plenary meetings and eight meetings of the Committee of the Whole; two meetings were devoted to the round-table discussions. The Chair of the Commission opened the session. At the 1st meeting, on 11 March 2013, opening statements were made by the Executive Director of UNODC, the representatives of the Sudan (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Egypt (on behalf of the Group of African States), China (on behalf of the Group of Asia-Pacific States), Guatemala (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States) and the Minister of State for Primary Care of Ireland (on behalf of the European Union and Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Iceland, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Ukraine, as well as Liechtenstein and Norway).

118. Statements were also made by Evo Morales Ayma, President of the Plurinational State of Bolivia; the Minister of Interior and Secretary-General of the Drug Control Headquarters of the Islamic Republic of Iran; the Minister of Interior of Ghana; the Minister of Revenue and Associate Minister of Health of New Zealand; the Minister of Counter-Narcotics of Afghanistan; the Executive Director of the National Commission for Development and Life without Drugs of Peru, also on behalf of the Union of South American Nations; and the Director of the Federal Drug Control Service of the Russian Federation.

119. At the 2nd meeting, on 11 March 2013, opening statements were made by the Chairman of the State Service on Drug Control of Kyrgyzstan; the General Director of the Narcotics Control Department of Saudi Arabia; the Vice-Secretary of the

Office of the President of Uruguay; the Acting Chairman of the National Commission for Drug Control and Supervision of the Lao People's Democratic Republic; the Vice-Minister of Criminal Justice of Colombia; the Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Guatemala; the Deputy Minister of Home Affairs and Chief of Police of Myanmar; the Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Narcotics Control of Pakistan; the Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs of the United States; the Head of the Interministerial Mission Against Drug Abuse and Addiction of France; the Government Delegate for the National Plan on Drugs of the Ministry of Health, Services and Equality of Spain; the Executive Secretary of the National Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances Control Board of Ecuador; the National Drug Coordinator of the Home Office of the United Kingdom; the Additional Secretary of the Ministry of Finance of India; the Chairman of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency of Nigeria; the Director of the General Department for Combating Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of the Ministry of Interior of Libya; the Deputy Director-General of the Federal Ministry of Health of Austria; and the Police Commissioner General of the National Narcotics Board of Indonesia.

C. Attendance

120. The session was attended by representatives of 48 States members of the Commission (the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sierra Leone, Swaziland and the United Republic of Tanzania were not represented). Also attending were observers for 75 other States Members of the United Nations, as well as non-Member States, representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations. A list of participants is contained in document E/CN.7/2013/INF/2.

D. Election of officers

121. The officers of the Commission at its fifty-sixth session were as follows:

Office	*Region*	*Officer*
Chair	Latin American and Caribbean States	Antonio García Revilla (Peru)
First Vice-Chair	African States	Khaled Abdelrahman Shamaa (Egypt)
Second Vice-Chair	Asia-Pacific States	Bajrakitiyabha Mahidol (Thailand)
Third Vice-Chair	Eastern European States	Simona Marin (Romania)
Rapporteur	Western European and other States	Mark Rutgers van der Loeff (Netherlands)

122. A group composed of the chairs of the five regional groups (the representatives of China, Egypt, France, Guatemala and Ukraine), the representative of the Sudan (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) and the observer for Ireland (on behalf of the European Union) was established to assist the Chair of the Commission in dealing with organizational matters. During the fifty-sixth session of the

Commission, the extended Bureau met on 13 and 14 March 2013 to consider matters related to the organization of work.

E. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

123. At its 1st meeting, on 11 March 2013, the Commission adopted by consensus its provisional agenda and organization of work (E/CN.7/2013/1), as orally amended, which had been approved by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 2012/241.

F. Documentation

124. It was noted that the list of documents before the Commission at its fifty-sixth session (E/CN.7/2013/CRP.6) would be made available on the UNODC website.

G. Closure of the session

125. At its 8th meeting, on 15 March 2013, a closing statement was made by the Executive Director of UNODC. The Chair of the Commission made closing remarks. The representatives of Canada, Guatemala (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States), the Russian Federation, Egypt (on behalf of the Group of African States) and China (on behalf of the Group of Asia-Pacific States) made statements.

126. The observers for Ireland (on behalf of the European Union) and the Sudan (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) also made statements.